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Friday,
30th September,
1955



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HOUSE OF THE PEOPLE

OFFICIAL REPORT

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LOK SABHA

Friday, 30th September, 1955

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Sabarmati Railway Yard

*2401. **Shri Dabhi** : Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state :

(a) the progress made in regard to the remodelling of the yard at Sabarmati; and

(b) the expenditure incurred so far thereon?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan) : (a) The ever all up-to-date physical progress is 30%.

(b) Rs. 19.39 lakhs.

Shri Dabhi : May I know when the work is likely to be completed?

Shri Shah Nawaz Khan : It is a very extensive work. The amount sanctioned for it is Rs. 150.18 lakhs and the hon. Member will appreciate that the progress of the work is dependent on the availability of material. It is very difficult to fix any date because we are depending for the material on somebody else.

Employment Exchanges

*2402. **Shri Jhulan Sinha** : Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to refer to the reply given to starred question No. 489 on the 3rd March 1955 and state :

(a) the progress made in the transfer of Employment Exchanges to the State Governments in pursuance of the recommendations made by the Shiva Rao Committee; and

(b) the nature of the changes, if any, in the organisational set up of these Exchanges, as a result of the transfer?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali) : (a) and (b). The question of delegation of the functions relating to the day-to-day administration of Employment Exchanges to State Governments and the conditions under which

such delegation should take place, including the staffing arrangements etc. are still under negotiation with the State Governments.

Shri Jhulan Sinha : May I enquire if during the course of negotiations there has been any impediment in the process of registration and placement during the period?

Shri Abid Ali : No. The work of the Employment Exchanges is going on as before.

Shri B. S. Murthy : May I know when this question will be finalised and after the finalisation whether there will be any amount to be paid by the Central Government for the maintenance of these Exchanges?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Khandubhai Desai) : As my colleague stated the negotiations are going on with the States; and by its very nature this cannot be brought about unless the States agree with this transfer and take up their own responsibilities. As far as the expenditure is concerned the Committee has recommended that it must remain in the present ratio that is sixty per cent. of the expenses will be borne by the Centre and forty per cent. by the State.

Shri Jaipal Singh : Have Government considered in the interests of co-ordination of work the question of amalgamating the District Soldiers', Sailors' and Airmen's Boards that are throughout the country in every district because these Boards also deal with the question of employment of ex-Armed Forces personnel? Have Government thought about it, about either combining this work or making these Boards part of the Employment Exchanges?

Shri Khandubhai Desai : This is a new issue that has been placed before us and of course the States will consider it.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao : May I know whether the States have agreed to take over the Exchanges?

Shri Khandubhai Desai : The States have agreed to take over the Exchanges. However the question of equating the staff of the present Exchanges with the provincial services is under negotiation and consideration.

ठाकूर युगल किशोर सिंह : किन प्रान्तों ने इस के लिये स्वीकृति दी है ?

श्री आबिद अली : उम्मीद है कि यह मसला लेबर मिनिस्टर्स की उस कानफरेंस में तै हो जायेगा जो नवम्बर के पहले हफ्ते में हैदराबाद में होने वाली है। अभी कुछ प्रांतों में स्वीकृति तो दी है लेकिन उस को इस वक्त जाहिर करना जरा अनुचित होगा।

Shri Jaipal Singh : In view of the fact that Government have Employment Exchanges in all the important industrial centres and other centres also, would Government consider the prohibition of private employment exchange obtaining in places like Jamshedpur?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker : These are all suggestions for action.

Shri Khandubhai Desai : I have replied to the self same question sometime back. The question of asking private employers to recruit people from the Employment Exchanges has not been considered finally.

Shri Gidwani : May I know whether the present staff working in the various State Exchanges will be given security of service and all efforts made to secure that they are not ousted by the State Governments?

Shri Khandubhai Desai : That is exactly the question which is under negotiation with the States.

होटल उद्योग को सहायता

*२४०३. श्री भक्त बर्दान : क्या परि-
बहन मंत्री २८ अप्रैल, १९५५ को दिये
गये तारांकित प्रश्न संख्या २६८६ के अनुपूरक
प्रश्न के सम्बन्ध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे
कि :

(क) क्या होटल उद्योग को सहायता
देने के बारे में योजना कमीशन के परामर्श
से तब से कोई अन्तिम निष्पत्ति किया गया
है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या योजना का
झोरा सभा की टेबल पर रखा जायेगा ?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the
Minister of Railways and Trans-
port (Shri Shahnawaz Khan) : (a)
No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

श्री भक्त बर्दान : क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ
कि पर्यटन उद्योग के लिये प्लानिंग कमीशन
से कितने रुपये की मांग की गयी है, और
उस में से होटल व्यवसाय को सहायता देने
के लिये कितनी रकम निर्धारित की गयी
है ?

श्री शाहनवाज खान : कुल कितनी रकम
मांगी गयी है यह तो मैं नहीं कह सकता हूँ,
लेकिन होटल इंडस्ट्री के लिये दो करोड़ का
मतालबा किया गया था। अभी तक प्लानिंग
कमीशन इस के ऊपर कोई फैसला नहीं दे
सका है, क्योंकि यह तो एक नीति की बात है,
जिस का फैसला कैबिनेट करेगी कि होटल
इंडस्ट्री को लोन दिया जाये या न दिया
जाये।

श्री भक्त बर्दान : क्या कोई नियमावली
तैयार की गई है जिस के आधार पर बड़े या
छोटे होटलों को इस फंड से सहायता दी
जायेगी ?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker : The policy
itself has not been decided.

श्री शाहनवाज खान : अभी तो यह सारा मसला
विचाराधीन है।

Shri Jaipal Singh : In the plan that
is under consideration, has the question
of training Indians in hotel management
also been taken into consideration?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan : Yes, that is
one of the things that has been given
very special attention.

Shri G. P. Sinha : May I know whe-
ther Government propose to control and
regulate the hotel charges and restaurant
charges in Delhi which are supposed to be
the highest?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan : No, Sir.
That does not concern us.

Shrimati A. Kale : Is it a fact that
Government has given some loans to the
company that is going to promote a hotel
on the eve of the UNESCO meeting
here?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker : That has been exhaustively asked yesterday or the day before.

The Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri L. B. Shastri) : And that pertains to the Works, Housing and Supply Ministry.

Ticketless Travelling

*2404. **Pandit D. N. Tiwary :** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the drive against ticketless travelling has slackened on the North Eastern Railway?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan) : No, Sir.

Pandit D. N. Tiwary : May I know whether it is a fact that the magistrates appointed for this drive are still on a temporary basis and therefore they do not take any interest in this matter?

Shri Shah Nawaz Khan : It is a fact that the railway magistrates working on the railways have not yet been confirmed, but it is not correct to say that they are not taking any interest. On the contrary I might tell the hon. Member that the railway magistrates are doing very useful work indeed in checking ticketless travel.

Pandit D. N. Tiwary : May I know whether it is a fact that the last effective drive was in February-March; it produced very good results; but after that, it has slackened?

Shri Shah Nawaz Khan : A drive was launched about January or February this year through the railway magistrates. It was very effective and I might say that the work is continuing.

Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad : In view of the fact that all possible defects and demerits are alleged in respect of this Railway, not only here but also outside in the press and elsewhere, do Government propose to set up a Commission to go into the working of the North-Eastern Railway?

Shri Shah Nawaz Khan : The question refers to ticketless travel.

ठाकुर युगल किशोर सिंह : क्या सरकार को मालूम है कि बिना टिकट चलने वालों में रेलवे कर्मचारियों और पुलिस वालों की संख्या ज्यादा है ?

श्री शाहनवाज खां : जी, हां, कभी कभी ऐसा भी देखने में आता है। लेकिन अगर

कोई रेलवे का कर्मचारी या पुलिस का सिपाही या अफसर पकड़ा जाता है तो उस के साथ कोई नर्मी नहीं बरती जाती और न उस पर कोई रहम किया जाता है।

Mr. Deputy-Speaker : This is one of the subject-matters at the time of the Budget.

Dead Letter Office

*2405. **Shri S. C. Samanta :** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that letters addressed in Bengali to persons in Delhi are generally sent back to West Bengal Dead Letter Office for the address to be written in English and then sent back to Delhi for delivery to the addressee; and

(b) if so the steps taken or proposed to be taken to have the letters delivered in time?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur) : (a) No. Arrangements exist in Delhi itself for the transcription into English of letters addressed in Bengali.

(b) Does not arise.

Shri S. C. Samanta : In answer to part (a) the hon. Minister said "No". Is it not a fact that I myself referred two or three letters to the Department? May I know whether any such arrangement has been made as was proposed, namely, that some of the officers in the Department should be engaged for a short time, say one hour or two hours a day in the office for transcribing these letters in Delhi?

Shri Raj Bahadur : What I have stated in the reply to the question is the rule. There might have been exceptions of which my hon. friend might have been a victim and I am sorry for that. I can only say whenever such instances occur he may kindly bring the same to my notice. I have also said that there are Transcription Centres and whenever a letter is addressed in a language which is not the regional language of the area it is sent there.

Shri S. C. Samanta : May I know whether any instructions have been issued to the regional post offices to the effect that if letters addressed to the people living in distant places where the language is not the same contain addresses written in the regional language the addresses should be transcribed in English?

Shri Raj Bahadur : Yes. I may refer the hon. Member to D. G. O's circular dated 16th November 1953. Initially the post office clerks concerned or the clerks of the R. M. S. office concerned have to transcribe these letters' addresses in English. In case they do not know the regional language in which the letter has been addressed, they direct it to the nearest transcription centre. Strict instructions have been given that such letters should in no case be directed to the Dead Letter Office.

Shri B. K. Das : Do I understand that whatever be the script of the address it is transcribed in English or Hindi and delivered here in Delhi?

Shri Raj Bahadur : No, Sir. It depends upon the region from which it has been posted. Supposing a letter has been addressed in Telugu and it has got to come to Delhi, that letter is sent to the nearest transcription centre.

Central Council of Local Self-Government

*2406. **Shri Gidwani** : Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state :

(a) the nature of the decisions taken in the Central Council of Local Self-Government held at Simla from the 23rd to the 29th June 1955; and

(b) the composition of the body proposed to be started to supervise the execution of these decisions?

The Deputy Minister of Health (Shrimati Chandrasekhar) : (a) A copy of the Resolutions passed at the First Meeting of the Central Council of Local Self-Government held at Simla from the 23rd to the 25th June 1955 is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix XII, annexure No. 11].

(b) A copy of the orders constituting the Executive Committee of the Central Council of Local Self-Government is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix XII, annexure No. 11].

Shri Gidwani : May I know whether any decision has been taken regarding slum clearance and whether the State Governments have enacted suitable legislation fixing the amount of compensation or laying down any principles on which compensation should be determined for acquiring slum areas or other areas as envisaged under the revised article 31 of the Constitution?

Shrimati Chandrasekhar : I have not followed the question properly.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker : First I should like to know whether the decisions are available here in any book form in the Library.

Shrimati Chandrasekhar : The proceedings of the Local Self-Government Ministers' Conference are under print and as soon as they are printed a copy of the proceedings will be placed in the library of the Lok Sabha.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker : The hon. Member wants to know if any decision has been taken regarding slum clearance.

Shrimati Chandrasekhar : It is not a question of decisions; slum clearance was discussed in a detailed way as to whether we should give assistance to the various States to improve the slum areas and or to clear the slums etc. That is being taken up with the Planning Commission and we have asked for some information from the State Governments and after we receive it the question will be discussed by the Executive Committee.

Shri Gidwani : I wanted to know whether the Government are aware of any State Government having passed any Legislation regarding the clearing of slum areas or other lands under the new revised article of the Constitution, because the Compensation has to be fixed, and that was a great hurdle in many States in the matter of acquiring lands or clearing the slums?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker : That does not arise out of this question. The decisions taken at the Simla Conference and what the several State Governments have done in this matter is not strictly a subject matter of this question.

Shri Hem Raj : In view of the fact that most of the States are abolishing district boards, may I know whether any decision has been taken by this conference as to whether they should follow a policy of constituting a body in between the panchayats and the Governments?

Shrimati Chandrasekhar : There was a decision taken for having an intermediate body between the local bodies and the State Governments not only for a supervisory function but also to collect funds for their own maintenance. As regards the abolition of district boards we are not concerned. We have not sent any intimation to the State Governments.

Shri S. N. Das : What are the subjects that have been referred to this Council by the Central Government, and may I know whether those subjects have been considered by the Council?

Shrimati Chandrasekhar : Which Council? Does he mean the Executive Committee?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker : The Central Council of Local Self-Government.

Shrimati Chandrasekhar : A copy of the resolutions is placed on the Table of the Lok Sabha and that will give a clear idea of the things discussed at the Simla Conference this year.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker : The decisions are not placed before the House yet. The hon. Member may take time and put further questions if necessary thereafter.

Railway Siding at Barbil

*2408. **Shri R. N. S. Deo :** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received any suggestion for taking over the private assisted siding of Messrs. Bird & Company at Barbil (Orissa) and to distribute the same equitably amongst all the mine owners of the area; and

(b) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken in the matter?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Private sidings cannot be taken over by the Railway. As regards the assisted siding of Bird & Co. at Barbil (Orissa) this can be taken over under certain conditions, the implications of which are being examined.

Shri R. N. S. Deo : May I know whether Government have examined the legal and constitutional position and found that they are not in a position to acquire the private sidings for a public purpose?

Shri Shah Nawaz Khan : Yes, Sir. That is so.

Shri R. N. S. Deo : May I know whether Government are aware that due to lack of loading facilities there is stockpiling of minerals and it has led to considerable retrenchment of labour in the mining area?

Shri Shah Nawaz Khan : That is quite another question. Some parties actually approached the Railway Ministry for construction of new sidings, taking off from the Thakoor Rani sidings, but that siding was a private siding belonging to Bird and Co. One of the parties concerned had to produce a letter of consent or agreement from the person concerned but they have not been able to produce that letter. In the absence of that we are not able to proceed any further. That is the position.

Shri R. N. S. Deo : May I know when this private siding was constructed its length and loading capacity, and under what concessions it was given to this company by the previous Government?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker : That does not arise out of this question. The hon. Member wants to know whether it can be acquired, and that question is under examination.

Shri Jaipal Singh : In view of the fact that owing to the monopolistic policy that has been adopted by this particular firm, something like 50,000 people were thrown out of employment, may I know whether Government would consider the question of persuading this firm to share that siding with everyone on an equitable basis?

Shri Shah Nawaz Khan : As I have explained, there are two types of sidings: one is the private siding and the other is the assisted siding. We cannot take over a private siding under the existing law and regulations. Government can take over the assisted sidings under certain conditions. That is the position and where it is necessary to take over assisted sidings in the public interest we will do so. The matter is being examined.

Shri Jaipal Singh : May I know whether the recent amendment to the Constitution does not apply to this particular firm, or, is the firm above the Constitution?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker : Possibly the Government have examined it also that way.

Shri Jaipal Singh : They say they cannot acquire it.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker : Are we now to have a legal interpretation of the Constitution here?

The Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri L. B. Shastri) : I want to say only one thing. There is clause No. 21 in that agreement under which the Government is not prevented from taking over the siding and convert it into a public one. But if there is a dispute between the two parties, then, as a matter of fact, the whole matter has to be referred to arbitration and we might take recourse to that method.

Shri R. N. S. Deo : May I know, in view of the difficulties felt by Government in taking over this private or assisted siding whether Government propose to provide a public siding there to remove the difficulties?

Shri L. B. Shastri : We will consider it.

India-Iraq Air Service

*2409. **Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad :** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state whether any regular air service has been started between

India and Iraq in accordance with the agreement signed on Air Transport between the two Governments in July, 1955?

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

Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad : May I know whether any communication has passed between the two Governments on the basis of which we might know at what time there is any likelihood of the air service being started between the two countries?

Shri Raj Bahadur : The agreement was signed at Baghdad as long ago the 28th July 1955. The instruments of ratification have not yet been exchanged and it is going to be done soon. There is no intention on the part of the Air India International to start a regular service with a regular halt in Iraq at the moment.

Hyderabad Gold Mines

*2410. **Shri T. B. Vittal Rao :** Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received any report from the Conciliation Officer (Central) Secunderabad regarding the refusal of the management of Hyderabad Gold Mines to discuss with the representatives of the Labour Union the demands of the workers;

(b) if so, what further steps are being taken by Government; and

(c) whether Government propose to refer the demands of the workers for adjudication in view of the Conciliation being a failure?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali) : (a) to (c). A report dated the 24th June 1955 was received from the Conciliation Officer (Central) Secunderabad. During the conciliation proceedings, the Company took the stand that the management had already recognised another union, namely the Hutti Gold Mines Khamgar Sangh which according to them was the only representative body competent to speak on behalf of the workers and that as such they were unable to negotiate with the Hyderabad Gold Mines Labour Union. In July 1955 the Conciliation Officer (Central) Secunderabad, again discussed the demands of the union with the parties separately and requested the union to furnish a complete statement of its case with reference to each demand. The request has not been so far complied with by the union.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao : It is stated in the reply that the other Union was representative. May I know the membership of the two Unions functioning in the Gold Mines and whether the Conciliation Officer has verified the membership of both the Unions?

Shri Abid Ali : According to the report of the Conciliation Officer the other Union was representative and the management recognised it. So far as the question of recognition is concerned it between the employers and the employees. With regard to the latter part of the question the organisation to which that Union is affiliated did not submit its return for the last year in time for verification. They have submitted the return for the year ended 31st March 1955 and it is being verified.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao : In view of the fact that the wages in these Gold Mines have not been fixed either by a Tribunal or a Wage Board do Government propose to refer the demand of the workers to a Tribunal as they have done for the workers of Kolar Gold Fields?

Shri Abid Ali : I have already stated in the latter part of my reply that the Union itself has failed to submit the details concerning its demands. I may submit that this matter is not as simple as the question appears to be; it has a long history of lock-outs, strikes, violence and exploitation of the workers by political parties.

Shri Raghavaiah : May I know what is the criterion on which the management propose to recognise the Union? Is it simply on the basis of annual returns or is it on the basis of any other factor?

Shri Abid Ali : It is not the annual return; it is the support of the workers. The Union has been disowned by the workers according to the employers.

Shri Raghavaiah : The Minister has stated in his reply that the workers of the other Union have got a history of strikes and other things. May I know whether these strikes and other struggles made by the workers for the redressal of their grievances are unconstitutional and that is the reason why the management refuse recognition to that Union? If that be the case may I know what is the attitude of the Government?

Shri Abid Ali : In this particular matter the workers concerned were forced to adopt unconstitutional methods also.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker : Q. No. 2413.

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan) : There is another Question No. 2446 which can be taken up along with question No. 2413.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker : Yes, both these questions may be answered together.

Vending Contracts

*2413. **Thakur Jugal Kishore Sinha :** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to the reply given to starred question No. 1785 on the 14th September 1955 and state :

(a) whether any trial has been given to the Co-operative Societies in vending contracts; and

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

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan) : (a) and (b). Vending contracts for certain commodities are being worked by co-operative societies at two stations on the N. Rly. since October 1949. Complaints have been received regarding the working of these contracts also.

Co-operative Societies and Private Contractors

*2446. **Thakur Jugal Kishore Sinha :** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1785 on the 14th September, 1955 and state :

(a) whether any comparative study has been made in the working and the management of Co-operative Societies and private contractors with regard to the price and quality of commodities supplied;

(b) whether Government propose to take step to improve the services of the Co-operative Societies; and

(c) if so, in what manner?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan) : (a) Yes.

(b) and (c). In order to effect improvement where necessary the Railways exercise supervision over these Societies in terms of specific agreements just as in the case of the other private contractors.

ठाकुर युगल किशोर सिंह : क्या को-ऑपरेटिव सोसाइटी के बारे में कोई जांच हुई है और हुई है तो उस का नतीजा क्या निकला ?

श्री शाहनवाज़ खां : जी हां, बहुत गहरी जांच पड़ताल हुई है। गाजियाबाद में जो को-ऑपरेटिव सोसाइटी है उस में तो आपस

में काफी झगड़ा फसाद हुआ और बूख हड़ताल भी हुई। जो वहां की सोसायटी के मेम्बर्स हैं उन में पार्टियां बन गईं और उन की आपस में मुकदमेबाजी भी शुरू हो गई।

ठाकुर युगल किशोर सिंह : भविष्य में इस प्रकार की को-ऑपरेटिव सोसाइटियों की ज्यादा उपयोगिता के लिये या उन के काम के सुधार के लिये सरकार क्या कदम उठा रही है ?

श्री शाहनवाज़ खां : ग्रानरेबुल सदस्य को मालूम होया कि थोड़ा ही अर्सा हुआ जब कि एक प्रलगेसन कमेटी के नाम से हाई पावर कमेटी मुकर्रर की गई थी। उस कमेटी ने इस मसले पर काफी गहरे तौर पर जांच पड़ताल की थी और उस पर खूब विचार किया था। वह इस नतीजे पर पहुंची थी कि रेलवे के भीतर बेन्डिंग या केटरिंग के ठेके जो हैं उन को को-ऑपरेटिव सोसायटीज को देने के लिये कोई खास कायदा नहीं निकल सकता।

Shri B. S. Murthy : May I know why contract licences are not being given to the actual vendors in places where the co-operative societies are supposed to be not working in the interests of the vendors?

श्री शाहनवाज़ खां : जिस वक्त इस बात की जरूरत महसूस हुई.....

श्री बी० ए०० मूर्ति : अंग्रेजी में बोलिये।

Shri Shah Nawaz Khan : As I said the working of co-operative societies at Khurja is very unsatisfactory. They have been given lots of warning. The work is deteriorating and when it exceeds a certain limit it may be necessary to cancel the contract and then adopt the measures which have been suggested by the hon. Member.

श्री ए० ए०० द्विवेदी : मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि जहाँ पर कंट्रैक्टर्स बँडर्स को मुकर्रर करते हैं, रेलवे की तरफ से क्या यह शर्तें उन के लिये हैं कि वह बेन्डर्स को कमीशन बेसिस पर या तन्खाह पर काम देंगे ?

और यदि है, तो जो कंट्रैक्ट्स रूल को तोड़ते हुए पाये गये हैं, उन के खिलाफ कोई कार्यवाही भी गई है ?

श्री शाहनवाज खाँ : अगर ग्रानरेबुल सदस्य का मतलब सबलेटिंग से है तो सबलेटिंग रेलवे के कानून के बिल्कुल खिलाफ है और अगर कोई ठेकेदार अपने ठेके को सबलेट करता है तो वह एक जुर्म करता है और अगर यह चीज रेलवे को मालूम हो जाये और साबित हो जाये तो न सिर्फ उस का वह ठेका बल्कि उस के रेलवे के जितने ठेके हैं उन तमाम को कैसिल कर दिया जायेगा ।

श्री एम० एल० द्विवेदी : क्या माननीय मंत्री महोदय को पता है कि बहुत सी जयहों पर ईश्वरदास बल्लभदास के वेन्डर्स इस तरह पर चलते हैं ?

रेलवे तथा परिवहन मंत्री (श्री एल० बी० शास्त्री) : माननीय सदस्य के कहने से ही तो यह साबित नहीं हो जायेगा ?

श्री एम० एल० द्विवेदी : मैं ने जांच की है ।

श्री एल० बी० शास्त्री : जांच की है, लेकिन क्या आप ने कभी हमें मामला दिया या यह साबित करने की कोशिश की । पहले आप इस चीज की बतलायें फिर अगर वह मामला साबित हो जाता है तो उन को भी हटना पड़ेगा ।

पंडित जी० एन० तिबारी : क्या बल्लभ दास

Mr. Deputy-Speaker : We are drifting away from co-operative societies. Is Vallabhdas a co-operative society? We are going away from one topic to another.

Pandit D. N. Tiwary : The hon. Minister just now stated that anybody found guilty of subletting will be punished

Mr. Deputy-Speaker : Order, order. This does not arise out of this question.

Tourist Information Bureau Centre

*2414. Shri Sanganna : Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a proposal for the opening of a Tourist Information Bureau centre in Orissa State; and

(b) if so, at what stage it stands?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan) : (a) Yes.

(b) The proposal is to open a small office under a Tourist Reception & Information Officer. The Union Public Service Commission is selecting the Officer.

Shri Sanganna : May I know the place that has been selected for the opening of this centre?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan : Bhubaneswar.

Shri Sanganna : May I know what qualification a place should have so that a Tourist Information Bureau may be opened there?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan : It must be a centre of great interest to the tourists.

An Hon. Member : Just like Delhi

उद्योग के भीतर प्रशिक्षण

*2415. श्री के० सी० सोधिया : क्या श्रम मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) 'उद्योग के भीतर प्रशिक्षण' के सम्बन्ध में श्री क्लिफोर्ड के जाने के बाद क्या कोई काम हो रहा है;

(ख) श्री क्लिफोर्ड ने किन किन उद्योगों में इस प्रणाली को प्रारम्भ करने की सिफारिश की थी; और

(ग) इस प्रणाली की मुख्य बातें क्या हैं ?

श्रम उपमंत्री (श्री आबिद खली) :

(क) श्री फी एवं एक और विदेशी विशेषज्ञ श्री पियर्सन अभी भारत में ही हैं और "उद्योग के भीतर शिक्षा" योजना का काम हो रहा है :

(ख) इन विशेषज्ञों की यह सलाह है कि लोहा, तार और इंजन बनाने वाले भारी इंजीनियरिंग उद्योगों में यह योजना चलाई जाये ।

(ग) इस योजना का ध्येय नीचे और बीच के देख रेख करने वाले कर्मचारियों की कार्य-प्रवीणता को बढ़ाना है ।

श्री के० सी० सोधिया : कौन कौन सी जगहों पर यह प्रशिक्षण बढ़ाया गया है ?

श्री आशिष भली : यह प्रशिक्षण टैक्सटाइल, सीमट और कई दूसरे उद्योगों में जो कि बम्बई नागपुर, दिल्ली जैसे कई स्थानों में है, काफी बढ़ा है ।

श्री के० सी० सोधिया : कितने प्रादमियों ने इस का उपयोग किया है ?

श्री आशिष भली : जैसा मैं भ्रज कर चुका हूँ कि जो नीचे और बीच के कर्मचारी हैं उन को इन में सिखाया जाता है, और उन की माफ़त उद्योग में तरक्की की कोशिश हो रही है ।

श्री के० सी० सोधिया : क्या इस के कोई आकड़ रखे जाते हैं कि कितने प्रादमियों को सिखाया जाता है ?

श्री आशिष भली : उन का नम्बर तो भ्रगर मेम्बर साहब नोटिस देगे तो पेश कर दिया जायेगा, लेकिन जहाँ तक इंडस्ट्री का ताल्लुक है, उस के बारे में मैं कह सकता हूँ कि ग्रहमदाबाद में काफी काम हुआ है और इसीलिये पहले उसको एक साल के लिये फिर दुबारा एक साल के लिये और अब फिर एक साल के लिये और बढ़ाया गया है ।

Development of Cattle

*2416. Shri Radha Raman : Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of India have sanctioned Rs. 1,05,000 as subsidy to the Bihar Government for the development of cattle in 1955-56;

(b) whether this grant is subject to any conditions; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) and (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix XII, annexure No. 12.]

Shri Radha Raman : May I know whether the Union Government has received any demand for similar subsidy from other States, and if so, which are the States?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh : This scheme is operating over the whole of India. We have got certain rules according to which the State Governments and private institutions are entitled to subsidy as well as other concessions. They are given equally under those rules to everybody who asks for it.

Shri Radha Raman : May I know whether, in view of the poor conditions of cattle in the State of Delhi, any scheme has been received from the State of Delhi for development and whether it is being considered by the Union Government?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker : Order, order. So far as this question is concerned, we start with one State Bihar and then go to Delhi, from Delhi to Madras and from Madras to Bombay. How to go on? The hon. Member may table an unstarred question and ask information. Thereafter, if he is interested in any particular question on which supplementary questions are necessary on the floor of the House, let him bring it forward here. I cannot allow the time of the House to be taken away.

Dr. Rama Rao : One of the purposes of this grant is the starting of artificial insemination centres. May I know how many centres have been started or are going to be started in Bihar and where?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh : So far as Bihar is concerned, I have got a list here. They are : Shikarpur, Hura, Dharbhanga, Pusa, Shakra, Barbigha, Bhagalpur, Ekanga sarai.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker : Even if the hon. Minister should read out all the names, the hon. Member cannot know just as I cannot understand. Enough if the number is stated. How many are there?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh : Twelve.

Pandit D. N. Tiwary : How many of them are in rural areas?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh : They are all in rural areas.

डा० राम सुभग सिंह : सरकार की ओर से पशुओं के विकास के लिये जो डेरी फार्म बिहार में खोले गये हैं, क्या उन में से एक भी डेरी फार्म मुनाफे पर चलती है या सब के सब घाट पर चलते हैं ?

डा० पी० एस० देशमुख : यह सवाल डेरी फार्म की निस्वत नहीं है, यह आर्टिफिशल इन्सेमिनेशन के लिये है।

श्री जनार्दन रेड्डी : कंट्रोल डवलेपमेंट के लिये कौन सी नस्लों पर जोर दिया जाता है ? क्या देउनी की नस्ल जो कि मुल्क की बहुरीन नस्ल है, वह भी इस में शामिल है ?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh : May I submit that this also does not arise out of this question?

Shri Jaipal Singh : May I know why there are no cattle breeding farms in South Bihar ? The list so far as it was permitted to be read related only to North Bihar.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh : Firstly this is not a cattle breeding programme. This relates to artificial insemination and key village centres. We accept the State Government's proposals. It is not we who determine the location.

Family Planning

*2418. **Shri K. K. Das :** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government encourage the use of modern scientific methods including the use of contraceptives for Family Planning;

(b) if so, the amount spent thereon during each of the last three years for this purpose;

(c) the machinery set up by Government, if any, for this purpose; and

(d) the progress of work done so far?

The Deputy Minister of Health (Shrimati Chandrasekhar) : (a) Government encourage the use of Scientific methods. But so far as Contraceptives are concerned Government have not encouraged their use though some research work on them is being carried out.

(b) 1954-55 Rs. 6,98,889.
1953-54 } Nil
1952-53 }

(c) and (d). A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix XII annexure No. 13]

Shri K.K. Das : May I know how many applications from voluntary organisations for financial assistance have been disposed of up till now?

Shrimati Chandrasekhar : About 39 applications, and some more, which come to about 50 for other independent research schemes also have been granted.

Dr. Rama Rao : The Government, as the Hon. Minister stated, do not encourage the use of contraceptives. Government have found that the family planning centres in Delhi on the rhythm method have failed, and have proved unpopular. The Government are not encouraging surgical operations even in suitable cases.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker : The hon. Member is making a speech. What is the question?

Dr. Rama Rao : What is it that the Government are doing excluding these three?

Shrimati Chandrasekhar : As regards the failure of the rhythm method, I cannot say anything because we have just concluded the study in the two centres that were carrying on this work and we have not yet finalised the results. Till then we cannot say anything. As regards contraceptives, some of the family planning centres are using it. What I said is, we have not given any encouragement to its use by the public by free supply.

Shri V. P. Nayar : I want to know who is the Chief Adviser on Family Planning which is based on the nonsensical neo-Malthusian theory that all social evils are attributable to free and unrestrained fecundity and how much money this Chief Adviser is receiving from the Government?

Shrimati Chandrasekhar : There is no Chief Adviser. There is a person in the Directorate, who is a Deputy Director-General of Health Services and he is in-charge of this work.

Shri Gidwanji : May I know whether the Government are aware that family planning schemes where contraceptives are being used are becoming popular not only in the urban areas, but even in rural areas? Is it not a fact that at the rate at which population is growing, unless family planning is practised on a wider scale, there can be no progress in the country?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker : The hon. Member has made a speech.

Young Farmers' Clubs

*2519. **Shrimati Jaysahri :** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state how many young Farmers' (4-H) Clubs have been started so far since the return of the Indian Farm Youths who had left for U.S.A. in 1953?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh) : The Government of India has not started an 4-H Club. It is reported that the Farm Youths who have returned from U.S.A. have started about 200 Young Farmers' Clubs in various States. Some of the State Governments have also set up Youth Clubs.

A scheme has been prepared under the Second Five Year Plan to organise Farm Youth Clubs initially around the Extension Training Centres.

Shrimati Jayashri : May I know whether young farmers from other countries have also visited us?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh : Yes, Sir. There is a regular programme of exchange of young farmers from U.S.A. to India and from India to U.S.A.

Shri N. S. Das : May I know the total number of farmers who have joined as members of these clubs so far?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh : I could not give the number. I have already given the number of the clubs.

Shri Gadilingana Gowd : May I know how many such clubs have been started in Andhra State?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh : As I stated, the Central Government has not taken any direct interest in the organisation of the clubs so far. We intend to do so in the Second Five Year Plan, and therefore, this is more or less a private activity excepting where the State Governments have taken some interest in it. I therefore have not got the details of it.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava : Does Government propose to give any assistance to these 4-H Clubs?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh : Not for the present. It will be seen what we can do in the second Five Year Plan.

Shri Janardhan Reddy : May I know the activities of these clubs?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh : Essentially it is to cultivate love of farming and introduce better methods among the younger people and familiarise them with better agriculture.

Pension to Aged Persons

*2420. **Shri Bibhuti Mishra :** Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to give pensions to aged persons as a Social Security measure; and

(b) if so, when?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali) : (a) and (b). It is not proposed to undertake this measure during the second Five Year Plan period.

श्री बिभूति मिश्र : क्या सरकार को पता है कि विभिन्न प्रदेशों में जमींदारी ऐबालीशन के बाद जो बहुत से भ्रादमी जमींदारों के आश्रित रहा करते थे, अब बुढ़ापे में उन को कोई पूछने वाला नहीं है? क्या सरकार उन को खाना देने के लिये कोई इन्तजाम करेगी?

श्री आबिद अली : जहाँ तक उद्योगों में लगे हुए कामगारों का सम्बन्ध है उन के लिये कहीं कहीं ग्रचुइटी की स्कीम है कहीं प्राविडेंट फंड की स्कीम है। उस को हम काफी बढ़ा रहे हैं। जहाँ तक गांवों का सम्बन्ध है, यह तो आम मामला है और इस को तो राज्य सरकारें ही सम्भाल सकती हैं।

श्री बिभूति मिश्र : सरकार को पता होना चाहिये कि गांवों में बहुत से भूमिहीन हैं और उन के बूढ़े भ्रादमियों को कोई पूछने वाला और सहायता देने वाला नहीं है। क्या द्वितीय पंचवर्षीय योजना में सरकार उन के लिये कोई इन्तजाम करेगी?

श्री आबिद अली : उन के पास जमीन तो है।

Mr. Deputy-Speaker : The hon. Minister said it is the lookout of the State Governments. The hon. Member is giving arguments as why it ought not to be taken. Nobody denies the need for all this, but it is the jurisdiction of the State Government. There is no good giving information instead of eliciting answers. I think it is taking away the time of the House.

श्री बिभूति मिश्र : क्या केन्द्रीय सरकार इस के लिये कोई आदेश दे रही है कि राज्य सरकारें इस काम को करें?

Shri B. S. Murthy : May I know whether as a preliminary to this, the beggar problem will be taken up in the Second Five Year Plan and the aged among the beggars will be given special preference?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker : That is a suggestion for action.

Transport of Ores

*2421. **Shri Deogam:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated quantity of Ores which the Railway will be able to move to Calcutta Port during 1956; and

(b) whether the Railways will provide more wagons for the Ore traffic?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) and (b). It is expected to move about a million tons of ores to Calcutta Port during 1956.

Shipping Personnel

*2423. **Shri S. N. Das:** Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that experienced officers on ships are always eager to come on to shore jobs;

(b) if so, the causes thereof; and

(c) the remedy for it?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) Not to our knowledge, Sir.

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

Tobacco Research Station at Kanauj

*2424. **Shri Janardhan Reddy:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Research Station is being established at Kanauj in U.P. for improving the quality of tobacco for cigarettes;

(b) if so, the estimated expenditure to be incurred thereon; and

(c) who will bear the expenditure?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) No.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Accommodation in Trains

*2425. **Shri K. P. Tripathi:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that on the 1st July, 1955 the Chamber of Commerce, Tezpur have complained about the paucity of accommodation in Tezpur Rangia train for long distance passengers, especially those holding third class tickets; and

(b) the steps, if any, taken in the matter?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) Yes.

(b) on the extension of 305 Up and 306 down North Bank Express trains to and from Amingaon from 1.10.1955, it is proposed to run two third class bogie coaches and one first, second and third class composite bogie coach between Tezpur and Maniharighat on connecting trains.

This will result in a considerable increase of the third class accommodation for long-distance passengers on the Rangiya-Tezpur Section.

Shri K. P. Tripathi: Does it mean that the North bank Express which was inaugurated by the hon. Railway Minister himself to run from Tezpur to Maniharighat will be abandoned and it will now run from Amingaon to Maniharighat?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Minister has said that they will run two more bogies.

The Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri L. B. Shastri): I cannot say definitely, but the hon. Member seems to be right in his presumption.

Shri K. P. Tripathi: I am not speaking about presumption. I want information as to whether the fact that it is being diverted to Amingaon means that it is taken away from Tezpur. That is the point of information which I want.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Minister are not in a position to answer that detail. He will put another question, not a supplementary.

हिन्दी में तार

*२४२७. डा० सत्यबाबी : क्या संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि क्या सरकार ने ऐसा प्रबन्ध किया है कि देहाती क्षेत्रों में तार बांटने से पहले उन का अनुवाद हिन्दी में या क्षेत्र विशेष की प्रादेशिक भाषा में किया जाये ?

संचार उपमंत्री (श्री राज बहादुर) : किसी भाषा के तार, किसी अनुमत लिपि-रोमन या देव नागरी में लिखे हुए, जैसे कि प्रेषक (Sender) ने लिखा हो, एड्रेसी (Addressee) (पाने वालों) को जैसे ही वितरण कर दिये जाते हैं। यदि कोई अंग्रेजी

न जानने वाला व्यक्ति तार का अनुवाद कराना चाहे, तो वह तार-घर से कह कर उस का अनुवाद करा सकता है ।

डा० सत्यबाबी : क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि जो अंग्रेजी के तार देहातों में भेजे जाते हैं उन के लिये ऐसा कोई प्रबन्ध किया जा रहा है कि वे तारघर से ही हिन्दी में अनुवाद करने के बाद भेजे जायें, क्योंकि देहात में अंग्रेजी पढ़े लिखे आदमी न मिलने के कारण उन तारों का उद्देश्य ही नष्ट हो जाता है ?

श्री राज बहादुर : वर्तमान में जो प्रबन्ध है वह तो केवल इतना ही है कि यदि पाने वाला तार का अनुवाद कराना चाहे तो वह तारघर में हो सकता है ।

श्री एम० एल० द्विवेदी : इस बात को ध्यान में रखते हुए कि हमारे यहां देहातों में अंग्रेजी जानने वाले नहीं रहते, क्या सरकार के पास इस तरह की मांग आयी है कि जो तार देहातों में भेजे जायें, वे प्रादेशिक भाषाओं में भेजे जायें ?

श्री राज बहादुर : इस प्रकार का यह पहला सुझाव आप के द्वारा ही प्राप्त हो रहा है ?

पंडित सी० एन० आलबीय : क्या भोपाल राज्य और मध्य भारत की रीजनल कमेटी ने इस प्रकार का सुझाव गवर्नमेंट को भेजा है ?

श्री राज बहादुर : मैं माननीय सदस्य की जानकारी के लिये यह बतलाना चाहता हूँ, और मैं समझता हूँ कि उन को स्मरण भी होगा, कि मध्य भारत में, उत्तर प्रदेश में, राजस्थान में और पंजाब में बहुत से तारघर ऐसे हैं जहां कि हिन्दी में ही तार दिये जा सकते हैं । फिर जहां हिन्दी में तार दिये जा सकते हैं वहां अनुवाद कराने की सुविधा का प्रश्न ही पैदा नहीं होता ।

डा० सुरेश चन्द्र : उन तारों के बारे में क्या प्रबन्ध है जो कि हिन्दी में भेजे जाते हैं लेकिन जिन के पहुंचने के स्थान पर हिन्दी जानने वाले नहीं हैं ?

श्री राज बहादुर : इस की व्यवस्था तो शिक्षा मंत्रालय द्वारा होगी ।

Award of Industrial Tribunal, Dhanbad

*2428. **Dr. Rama Rao:** Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state:

(a) the main points of the Award of the Industrial Tribunal, Dhanbad, given on the 24th June, 1955 in the dispute between Maganese Mine owners and their workers; and

(b) the extent to which the order on medical facilities has been or is proposed to be implemented?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): (a) I would refer the hon. Member to the full text of the award published in the Gazette of India (Part II, Section 3), dated the 2nd July, 1955, under the Government Notification No. S.R.O. 1409, dated the 24th June, 1955, copies of which have been placed in the Library.

(b) The award has been stayed by the Labour Appellate Tribunal, Bombay. The question of implementation of award by the employers does not therefore, arise at this stage.

Dr. Rama Rao: This award applies to the majorities of the maganese mines in Dhanbad. There are some others, thirty or forty in Andhara, Orissa and Bihar. Will the terms of this award be extended to those mines also, or the workers there have to go through all the processes of an industrial dispute and then get the award?

Shri Abid Ali: I do not think legally we can enforce this award in other areas. If the workers in Andhara or other places desire that their matter also should be adjudicated, they are at liberty to submit their demands to us.

Dr. Rama Rao: Do Government have any information as to whether the points about bonus, wages and other things have been implemented so far, or if any steps are being taken to implement those points ?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Khandubhai Desai): As the answer has been given the question of 245 mines was referred to a tribunal. It has given a decision which is now in appeal, and after that appeal is finalised, the award will be implemented. With regard to the other States where this adjudication is not applicable, if they bring it to the notice of the Government, Government will consider it.

Dr. Rama Rao: Very often, it happens that.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker : What is the hon. Member's question? Even to start with, there must be an indication of a question and not of a speech.

Dr. Rama Rao : May I know, when these awards are not implemented, how soon Government take action to compel the employers to implement the awards?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker : The appeal has to be disposed of. Then time has to be given for the implementation or non-implementation. It is only in the third stage that the question arises what Government will do if the awards are not implemented. I am not going to allow that question.

Road Transport Development

*2429. **Shri B. N. Misra :** Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a deputation headed by the Chairman of the Indian Roads and Transport Development Association, recently waited on him to discuss the possibilities of effecting further improvements in the Road Transport in India;

(b) if so, the points discussed; and

(c) the decisions, if any, arrived at?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Several points relating to the development of road transport in the country were discussed. The deputationists were informed that the points raised by them would be carefully considered by Government.

Shri B. N. Misra : My question was: "if so, the points discussed;"

The hon. Parliamentary Secretary has stated in reply to that that several points were discussed. May I know the details of those points? That is what I wanted to know.

Shri Shahnawaz Khan : They covered a wide range of subjects.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker : Then, why did the hon. Parliamentary Secretary not place it on the Table of the House? I would suggest to hon. Ministers that whenever any question or any part of a question involves a tabular statement as answer, then that may be given to the Notice Officer earlier. Part (b) of the question is:

"if so, the points discussed;"

If the answer to that is a long statement of if a number of points are there, then the hon. Parliamentary Secretary must have already placed it on the Table of the House or given it to the Notice office.

Shri Shahnawaz Khan : I can do so, if so you desire.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker : I am not going to allow reading of all that now.

Shri B. N. Misra : I am thankful to you for your elucidation that if my question was particular and it involved a very long answer, it should have been laid on the Table.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker : In future that will be done.

Shri B. N. Misra : May I know whether those points that I had asked for in my question will be circulated to Members now?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker : Circulated to hon. Members? The hon. Member will have it, if he wants, from the hon. Minister.

Shri B. N. Misra : I want to know those points. I have put the question. So, shall I have those points?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker : But the hon. Member has given the suggestion that they should be circulated to all hon. Members. If the hon. Member wants, he will get a copy.

The Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri L. B. Shastri) : I can tell him the main heads. They are as follows: (i) increase in transport capacity; (ii) reduction of prices of motor vehicles; (iii) reduction of taxes on motor vehicles; and (iv) removal of restrictions on the operation of motor vehicles.

Shri M. L. Dwivedi : May I know what decision has been taken in connection with the reduction of taxes?

Shri L. B. Shastri : That matter is still under consideration.

Local Delivery Post Cards

*2430. **Shri Telkikar :** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Local Delivery Post Cards are available for sale in all the post-offices in India;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the annual income from the sale of these post cards?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur) : (a) Yes where there is a demand for them.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The value of Local Delivery Post Cards supplied to Government Treasuries for issue to Post-Offices for sale to the public averages about Rs. 4,24,000 per annum. Information regarding the value of these postcards actually sold is not available. Collection of this information will involve time and expense which will not be commensurate with the result to be attained.

Shri Telkikar: May I know the names of the places where such cards are available?

Shri Raj Bahadur: The facility is there since 1st April, 1950, and it extends to all areas where there is a demand for these local delivery postcards; and those areas have been demarcated.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Local postcards will be used only in local areas which are sufficiently big. Is it contended that they are used for communication from one house to the other house?

Shri Telkikar: May I know the population that a city should have in order that these cards can be supplied?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: If the hon. Member is interested in any particular city, let him put a separate question.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Next question, No. 2431.

Shri N. B. Chowdhury: May I suggest that Q. No. 2455 also may be taken up along with this?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: If it is convenient to the hon. Minister, she may answer them together.

Ex-Women's Medical Service

*2431. **Shri N. B. Chowdhury:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) how the funds of the Ex-Women's Medical Service are being utilised; and

(b) whether it is a fact that Pakistan has demanded a share from this Fund?

The Deputy Minister of Health (Shrimati Chandrasekhar): (a) The funds of the Women's Medical Service are being utilised for meeting the expenditure on leave salary contributions, provident fund, cost of study leave and passages and difference in pay between the Women's Medical Service pay and the pay allowed in the service of the State Governments in respect of the Women's Medical Service Officers who were absorbed by the State Health Services. The funds are also

being utilised for paying scholarships to students for undergraduate, Post graduate studies in medicine and for training in Nursing.

(b) Yes.

Women's Medical Service

*2455. **Shri N. B. Chowdhury:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to lay a statement on the Table of the House showing:

(a) the number of Women's Medical Service officers at the time of disbandment of this Service;

(b) the number amongst them provided with employment; and

(c) whether Government have given any undertaking about their status and scales of pay?

The Deputy Minister of Health (Shrimati Chandrasekhar): (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix XII, annexure No. 14].

Shri N. B. Chowdhury: Is it a fact that although a number of qualified doctors belonging to the WMS with long experience in teaching and with research qualifications like MRCP and FRCS applied for the post of the principal of the Lady Hardinge Medical College, still the post has been given to a gentleman with much less qualifications?

Shrimati Chandrasekhar: The person who has now been chosen as the principal of the Lady Hardinge Medical College possesses the sufficient and the required qualifications. As to the women medical officer who belongs to the WMS, I think there was one such person who had the necessary qualifications. But she has already filed a suit against the institution; and as that suit is still pending in the court, her application could not be considered.

Shri N. B. Chowdhury: Is it a fact that when some women were being recruited for the Contributory Health Service, some of these ex-WMS people also applied but none of them were selected?

Shrimati Chandrasekhar: The recruitment for the Contributory Health Service is being done by the UPSC, and I do not think the UPSC would have rejected any candidate, if she had possessed the necessary qualifications.

Shri N. B. Chowdhury: Is it a fact that from the very beginning, the post of the principal of the Lady Hardinge Medical College has been held by women, and if so, what is the reason?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: How does that arise out of this question? That is an individual question.

Shri N. B. Chowdhury: This arises out of part (b) of Q. No. 2455, which relates to providing employment to the WMS officers.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Part (b) of that question relates only to providing employment. Are we now to go into the question why the principalship of the Lady Hardinge Medical College has been given to X and not to Y, and so on?

Dr. Rama Rao: How much does the payment demanded by Pakistan come to? And if any payment is conceded, will we take credit on account of the amount owned by Pakistan to us, or are we going to pay cash to Pakistan.

Shrimati Chandrasekhar: When the Countess of Dufferin's Fund was dissolved, the total assets were about Rs. 13,76,203. For her share, an amount of Rs. 1,10,096 was to be given to Pakistan in the ratio of the numbers of officers who opted to Pakistan and to India. But at the time of partition, Pakistan had to give to Punjab (India) a sum of Rs. 1,80,000 or so. Therefore, after the adjustment I think Pakistan will have to give us the difference between Rs. 1,80,000 and Rs. 1,10,096. And that has to be decided by the Steering Committee that will be meeting shortly.

Shri N. B. Chowdhury: May I know whether while recruiting qualified women doctors in future, Government would give due consideration to the cases of those women belonging to the WMS who are still unemployed?

Shrimati Chandrasekhar: Certainly, there are some of the women belonging to the WMS who are still in service. And some of them are still working in the Lady Hardinge Medical College. Of those persons, a few applied for the principalship also. But since they did not possess the necessary experience, they were not considered.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Next question.

Shrimati Sushama Sen: When there are qualified women.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Order, order.

All-India Warehousing Corporation

*2433. **Shri Vishwanatha Reddy:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to set up an All-India Warehousing Corporation;

(b) if so, the main functions of this Corporation; and

(c) when it is likely to come into existence?

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

(b) The main functions of the Corporation will be (i) to acquire and build godowns and warehouses at places of all India importance (ii) to run licensed warehouses and to train requisite personnel for the purpose, (iii) help the establishment of state warehousing co-operations and to act as agent of the National Co-operative Development and Warehousing Board.

(c) As soon as possible after the requisite legislation is passed by the Parliament.

Shri Vishwanatha Reddy: May I know whether the organisations that are going to be set up by this Corporation will function merely as keepers of the stocks that may be brought to the warehouses by the agriculturists or also as loan and sale societies?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: If my hon. friend means the State Warehousing Corporations, they will be put in charge of construction as well as the various functions attached to the warehouses.

Shri M. L. Dwivedi: May I make a submission?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: No.

Shri M. L. Dwivedi: Question No. 2462 was tabled as a Short Notice Question. It was stated by the Secretariat that it would be answered in the ordinary course. Now, as the purpose of the question is being defeated by it being thrown into ordinary lot, I would request you, in view of the importance of the question, to direct that it may be answered just now. It is regarding 5000 tones of oil having been destroyed by fire at Kandla.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: If the Minister agrees, I have no objection.

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): We are prepared to answer the question.

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa): Like a soldier.

कांडला के पास तेलवाहक पोत में अग

*२४६२. श्री एम० एल० द्विवेदी : क्या परिवहन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) कांडला बन्दरगाह के पास ५ हजार टन के तेल वाहक पोत में अग लगने का कारण क्या है;

(ख) क्या कोई जन-धन की हानि हुई है ;

(ग) यदि हां. तो उस का ब्यौरा क्या है; और उस का अनुमानित मूल्य क्या है और

(घ) क्या दुर्घटना की कोई जांच की जा रही है ?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) and (d). A Departmental Committee constituted by the Development Commissioner, Kandla enquired into the accident but has not found it possible to establish the exact cause of the fire.

(b) and (c). There has been no loss of life. Port property estimated at Rupees one lakh is feared to have been lost. The loss sustained by the tanker is not known.

Shri M. L. Dwivedi: May I know if the loss mentioned is the price of the oil only or it includes the price of any other property?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: It is other property also. Besides the oil, jetties and some other property might have been damaged.

Shri M. L. Dwivedi: May I know whether an inquiry will be made in this connection? It is not known what damage has been caused to the tanker. I want to know whether any inquiry would be conducted to ascertain the loss sustained by the tanker itself.

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: One inquiry has already been made. But there was a suggestion from the Inspector of Explosives that another inquiry should be made by the Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply and the Ministry of Transport. This matter is under consideration.

SHORT NOTICE QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS Visits of Ministers to Dalmia Nagar

S.N.Q. No. 17. Shri G. P. Sinha: Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Minister of Commerce & Industry visited Dalmia Nagar on the eve of Shri Ramkrishna Dalmia's arrest;

(b) whether the Finance Minister is also visiting that place very soon; and

(c) if so, the purpose of their visits?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawahar Lal Nehru): (a) and (c). The Minister of Commerce & Industry visited Dehri-on-Sone (Dalmia Nagar) on the 23rd September, 1955. The visit

was part of a tour in Bihar arranged by the Bihar Government to enable him to acquaint himself with industrial enterprises in Bihar. There was no connection between his visit and the arrest of Shri Ramkrishna Dalmia. It is understood that Shri Ramkrishna Dalmia has no interest or connection now with the industrial units of Dalmia Nagar.

(b). The Finance Minister is not visiting this place.

Shri G. P. Sinha: Is it a fact that Shri Shanti Prasad Jain was able to make good the amount of Rs. 2 crores which Shri Ramkrishna Dalmia is alleged to have misappropriated, and is it a fact....

Shri Jawahar Lal Nehru: It does not arise out of this.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Order, order. There is a case pending evidently and investigations are proceeding. How can details of all that be asked here? I do not know how this question was admitted. Even this matter need not have been brought here. That was what I originally thought so far as this question was concerned.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I rather doubt if the Minister of Commerce and Industry had any knowledge even of the arrest or the impending arrest. I do not know whether he knew anything about it.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Details of the case cannot be asked now.

Shri G. P. Sinha: Is it a fact that Government have appointed an Administrator to take control of the Bharat Insurance Company.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: How does it arise out of this?

Pandit D. N. Tiwary: Is it a fact that there are some definite instructions that the Prime Minister, Finance Minister and the Minister of Commerce and Industry should not ordinarily visit or open any individual concern in the private sector? May I know whether any such instructions have been issued? If so, what is the reason for the Minister visiting Dalmia Nagar?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I am not aware of any such instruction. In fact, I have myself visited such institutions.

Pandit D. N. Tiwary: May I know whether Members of Parliament belonging to that constituency were informed of this visit or not?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I do not know any reason for their being informed.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: In view of the fact that some three years ago, in June, or July 1952, after certain questions were asked in the House, the Prime Minister expressed himself generally against the idea of Mini-

sters on tour staying with business people, and in view also of the fact that since then, Ministers' tour programme sent to Members of Parliament generally omit mention of where they are staying, may I know if Government are taking steps to make sure that Ministers tours do not lend themselves to colourable conclusions?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: We are going from Dalmia-Jain to something else.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru : Staying with a person, first of all, is different from inspecting a factory—it is a very different thing. As regards this, what I said on the previous occasion generally applies. But it is not what I would call an absolute rule; there are sometimes some places where there is no help but to stay; there is no other place to stay.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: The hon. Prime Minister stated that this programme was arranged by the Government of Bihar. May I know the name of the particular Minister or official of the Government of Bihar who wrote a letter or telephoned to the Minister of Commerce and Industry? May I also know what are the other industrial centres which the hon. Minister of Commerce and Industry visited?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I really do not understand these questions. If there is any implication in them, I protest against it. I just do not understand this business of trying to find out who telephoned and at what time. I confess I am completely at a loss to know that the hon. Member is driving at. There are some big industrial undertakings in Bihar which ought to be visited—which are visited from time to time by the Commerce and Industry Minister; it is his duty and business to visit these places. It so happened that round about that time Shri Ramkrishna Dalmia was arrested. I doubt if anybody knew about his arrest except the Finance Minister and me before that.

Shri Kamath: And Home Minister?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Next question.

Shri Feroze Gandhi: May I just seek a clarification?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: No.

Shri Feroze Gandhi: It arises out of this.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I am going to the next question.

Shri Feroze Gandhi: Before you go to the next question, I want to know this on a point of information from you. It arises out of a ruling you have given just now. You say that the matter with regard to the question raised by Shri G. P. Sinha is before the court. The matter at present is not before the court. The interests of the persons insured with the Bharat Insurance Company are involved. What

protection are Government able to give to them to see that they do not lose all their money? It is not going to come up before the court, nor is any court going to look after that part of the question. Therefore, we would like to know from the Finance Minister or from the Prime Minister what the Government intend to do about this..... Let me finish. We would like to know from Government about this matter because insurance is under government protection; it is under Government control to a very great extent. Therefore, we would like to know what steps Government intend to take to see that those who are insured with the Bharat Insurance Company do not lose what they might have paid already to that company—I am one of them.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: They are all very important questions on which proper questions may be framed and answers elicited. So far as this question is concerned, it relates only to eliciting information to whether it is a fact that the hon. Commerce and Industry Minister visited Dalmia Nagar on the eve of the arrest of Shri Ramkrishna Dalmia, is the Finance Minister also going to visit that place; and if so, the purpose of the visit. We are not going into the question as to under what circumstances Shri Ramkrishna Dalmia has been arrested or what are the consequences, how the those persons who have insured their lives with the Bharat Insurance Company have to be protected and safeguarded. This would be another question.

An Hon. Member: Dalmia's arrest is mentioned there.

Shri Jaipal Singh: On a point of privilege, Sir.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: A question of privilege can be raised in the proper manner by writing to me, and if I give my consent, I may either bring it before the House or place it before the Privileges Committee. There is no question of privilege that can be raised off hand in this House.

Shri Jaipal Singh: May I rise to a point of order, Sir?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: What is the point of Order?

Shri Jaipal Singh: The Leader of the House stated something which I did not know was the truth. We had hitherto had the privilege of being informed whenever a Central Minister visited our constituencies. The Leader of the House just now said that there is no point in any Member being informed. I do hope....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It is not a point of order.

Dr. Rama Rao: Please allow me, Sir, to point out that the question looks a bit out of date. The notice was given on the 12th August when the negotiations were still going on.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Does he want to put the question or not?

Dr. Rama Rao: Unless the hon. Members know....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Let me know what the hon. Member wants. Does he want to put the question or not?

Dr. Rama Rao: One month and 16 days have lapsed.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Let it be two months.

Dr. Rama Rao: I seek your guidance. It is a short notice question dated the 12th August.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Let him put the question. He has had his way.

Loan to Burma

S.N.Q. No. 18, Dr. Rama Rao: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether negotiations are being conducted for advancing a loan to Burma;

(b) if so, the amount asked for and the amount that Government contemplate giving; and

(c) terms of the loan?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C.D. Deshmukh): (a) and (b). At the request of the Government of the Union of Burma the Government of India have agreed to give Burma a loan of Rs. 10 crores. In addition, they have also agreed to allow a credit to the extent of another Rs. 10 crores to enable Burma to finance her purchases in India.

(c) The terms of the loan and credit will be discussed with a Burmese mission which arrived in Delhi yesterday.

Dr. Rama Rao: May I know whether the Government can give huge loans or give away large amounts as in last year without the leave of the House?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: It is a question of opinion and procedure. In the first place, whether the loan is a huge one and secondly, what is the best procedure to follow before the House is informed of anything that is in progress.

Shri Joachim Alva: May I know whether it is not the duty of the Government of India both fraternally and morally

to go to the aid of Burma in her time of necessity, especially when she has rejected a loan from America for her building up?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: What is the question for which he wants an answer? Next hon. Member.

Shri Jaipal Singh: In view of the fact that we are assisting the Government of the Union of Burma with nearly Rs. 20 crores, may I know whether in the negotiations that are taking place now in New Delhi the question of persuading Burma to consume our tea in preference to Ceylon tea will also be put before them because at the present moment they are not taking any tea from us?

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Many things can be done.

Shri Jaipal Singh: I want to know whether this would be one of the items that would be included in the talks.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I think it would be a matter which would be extraneous to the purport of these negotiations. They want the credit only to purchase commodities which they have decided to purchase from us and I do not think it would be right for us to suggest that something else be purchased from us. In any case, my colleague here reminds me that we have not got any surplus tea at the moment.

Dr. Rama Rao: While it is very desirable to assist a good neighbour like Burma, may I know how the Government will find money when they are not able to find money for essential projects in India due to stringency of funds?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: We have a certain amount of sterling balances. This sum as compared with the balances that we have is not a very large one and we have yet to decide for what period this loan is to be advanced to the Burma Government.

Shri V. P. Nayar: The hon. Finance Minister said that Burma will be accommodated to the tune of Rs. 20 crores for the purpose of financing purchases in India.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: It is not correct; it is only a loan of Rs. 10 crores.

Shri V. P. Nayar: Let it be Rs. 10 crores. May I know whether in these negotiations the Government of India will use their influence with the Burmese representatives to see that prawns worth Rs. 3 crores which were being taken regularly from Travancore-Cochin by Burma and which are now banned will be also resumed?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: There is a likelihood of the purchase of prawns being considered during the course of these negotiations.

Shri Ramachandra Reddi : May I know whether the previous loan has been liquidated fully or partly and how and whether for the grant of a loan the permission of the House is not necessary?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh : As regards the first part of the question, Rs. 15.44 crores have been adjusted in accordance with the agreement or the exchange of letters which was made in April 1954 and the rest of the amount will either be adjusted or will be treated as financial aid to Burma under the Colombo Plan so that for all practical purposes that loan may be regarded as liquidated.

Foreign News Publications

S.N.Q. No. 19. Shri S. N. Das: Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of India have taken a decision to prevent all foreign news publications from bringing out Indian editions;

(b) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to a press report published in the *New York Times* under the caption 'India puts curb on foreign press'; and

(c) if so, whether Government would state the real position in this regard?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Dr. Keskar): (a) Government have decided to accept in principle the recommendation of the Press Commission that foreign newspapers and periodicals which deal mainly with news and current affairs should not be allowed to bring out editions in India.

(b) Yes.

(c) *The New York Times* have been informed that pursuant to the uniform policy adopted in accordance with the above decision, it would not be possible to accede to their proposal for bringing out their international edition in India.

Shri S. N. Das: May I know whether a same kind of report was sent by the daily correspondent of the *London Times* some-time back and whether the Press Note issued by the Government of India was despatched by that correspondent to the paper and whether that Press report was published there in other papers also?

Dr. Keskar: I do not see how this is relevant to this particular question which asked about the printing of an international edition of the *New York Times*. What the *London Times* correspondent might have sent or might not have sent is not relevant to the question.

Shri Kasliwal: Is it not a fact that an Indian edition of the *Readers Digest* is being brought out in India and, if so, do Government propose to put a ban on it?

Dr. Keskar: *Readers Digest* has been bringing out an edition in India and the permission to do so was granted some time ago, probably a year or two back. Hereafter, we are not going to grant any permission because we have now accepted the recommendations of the Press Commission.

Shri Joachim Alva: May I know whether other foreign periodicals have applied for permission to bring out their editions in India and may I also know whether Government will remain firm in their resolve not to permit any foreigner, even if it be a member of the Commonwealth, to publish any of their periodicals and newspapers in this country?

Dr. Keskar: The decision which I read out is very clear and there is no ambiguity about it.

Rehabilitation Finance Administration

S.N.Q. No. 20. Shri N. M. Lingam (on behalf of Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the press interview reported to have been given by the Chief Administrator, Rehabilitation Finance Administration on the 19th September, 1955 in which he stated that the report of the Public Accounts Committee is based on "incorrect data" and insufficient understanding;

(b) whether the individual officers are authorised to criticize the report of a Committee of Parliament in the Press; and

(c) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to avoid the repetition of such actions?

The Minister of Revenue and Defence Expenditure (Shri A. C. Guha):

(a) Yes.

(b) and (c). It is clearly improper for Government officers to make public comments on the reports of Parliamentary Committees or on any proceedings of the Parliament. As soon as we saw the report of the interview in the papers, we took up the matter for consideration. Apparently, he has done this due to a lack of proper realisation. The officer concerned has since expressed his sincere regret for this incident. No other case of this type has so far occurred and the Government expects no such case will take place. But should this be necessary Government will certainly consider suitable action to prevent the recurrence of such incidents.

Shri C.R. Narasimhan: Have not Government already certain directives to the officers giving them guidance as to when to make pronouncements and when not to? Are there no existing directives and if there are, are the officers made known about them?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: All that the hon. Member wants to know is if a directive exists already.

Shri C. R. Narasimhan: Are there general directives issued to Government servants as to when and when not to make statements?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C.D. Deshmukh): This action was quite improper. There were no directions to forestall such a thing.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Hindi

*2400. **Shri D.C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state the programme for introducing Hindi in Posts and Telegraphs Offices in the year 1955?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): There is no specific programme. However, several positive steps have been taken and are continuing to be taken for popularising the use of Hindi in P. & T. Offices.

Remission of Rent Arrears

*2407. **Shri Biren Dutt:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the number of petitions made by the tenants to the Government of Tripura, for the remission of rent-arrears during the year 1955, so far;

(b) in how many cases the remission has been granted; and

(c) whether Government propose to apply the Limitation Act in Tripura, even in the matter of realisation of rent of the *khas* land?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) 1321.

(b) Remission has not been granted in any case so far.

(c) This is not possible until and unless the *Mitpura* Tenancy Act is substituted by the *Mitpura* Land Reforms Act which is in a final legislative stage.

Soil Survey in Sugarcane Areas

*2411. **Shri Bishwa Nath Roy:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state whether Government

propose to start soil survey in the sugarcane growing parts of the country in the near future for developing sugarcane cultivation?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): Soil survey in sugarcane areas is already being carried out by the major sugarcane producing States through their own Sugarcane Research Stations. For these Schemes financial assistance is being given by the Central Government also through the Indian Central Sugarcane Committee. It is proposed to extend the Soil Survey work as part of the Research and Development programme for the Second Five Year Plan.

Misuse of Railway Concessions

*2412. **Shri Kelappan:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in June 1954 or thereabout, there was a case of misuse of the Railway concessions allowed to certain students of the Sacred Heart High School, Mhow.

(b) whether there has been any occasion in the past for a similar misuse of the concession by this school; and

(c) the total loss suffered by the Railways?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There is no evidence to indicate that the concession had been misused in the past.

(c) No loss occurred to the Railway.

बाबू का ट्रांसशिपमेंट

२७१७. श्री एम० एम० सिंह : क्या रेलवे मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि क्या यह सच है कि पूर्वोत्तर रेलवे के मडुप्रादीह स्टेशन के ट्रांसशिपमेंट सेवा में इस प्रकार का परिवर्तन किया जा रहा है कि वह २४ घंटे काम करता रहे ?

रेलवे तथा परिवहन मंत्री के तथा सचिव (श्री शाहनवाज खाँ) : जी, हाँ, रात-दिन काम चालू रखने के लिये, जरूरी सहायियों दी जा रही हैं।

Training of Commercial Pilots

*2422. **Shri H.N. Mukerjee:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent by Government since 1951, year-wise, for the training of commercial pilots;

(b) the number of qualified commercial pilots in India at present; and

(c) the number of such pilots who are unemployed at present?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) I lay on the Table of the Lok Sabha a statement giving the required information [See Appendix XII, annexure No. 15].

(b) 524 on the 1st September, 1955.

(c) No pilot with Dakota endorsement on his commercial licence is at present unemployed. There are however 50 pilots without Dakota endorsements on their licences who are not employed. 14 of these are at present undergoing training for Dakota endorsement.

Freight Rates

*2432. **Shri Raghunath Singh:** Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the shipping line operating between Australia and India has decided to increase the present freight rates by 10 % from the 1st October, 1955?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): Yes, Sir.

Vanaspati

*2434. **Shri Kamath:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Food Technological Laboratory, Mysore was asked to conduct experiments for discovering a suitable colour for Vanaspati;

(b) whether the research in that direction has been stopped suddenly; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) No. The Central Food Technological Research Institute, Mysore has not been asked by Government. It has however taken up the work on the colourisation of vanaspati as a part of its regular programme.

(b) No.

(c) Does not arise.

Mahananda Bridges

*2435. **Shri M. Islamuddin:** Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to refer to the statement laid on the Table of the House in reply to starred question No. 1047 on the 10th December, 1954 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of Bihar have submitted the details of the bridges to be constructed over the Mahananda River for sanction; and

(b) if so, whether the sanction has been accorded for their construction?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) and (b). Plans and estimate for the bridge over the Mahananda river at Sonapurhat have been received and are under scrutiny. The work is expected to be sanctioned shortly. Plans and estimates for the bridge at Dingrghat, based on the design suggested by the Transport Ministry, are awaited from the Bihar Government.

Railway Booking

*2436. **Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that at Delhi Railway Station the booking of goods is not available even for months together;

(b) whether it is also a fact that thousands of maunds of goods are brought from Uttar Pradesh to Delhi by Road Transport and then booked from Delhi, thus causing undue hardship to the traders of Delhi; and

(c) if the answers to parts (a) and (b) above be in the affirmative the reasons therefor?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) With the exception of booking to the South, Saurashtra area and Assam Rail Link, there is no difficulty in booking to other areas.

(b) We have no information of any appreciable movement of traffic from U.P. to Delhi by road for further transport by rail.

(c) The delays occurring in booking to the areas mentioned under item (a), are due to limited capacity for movement, as against heavy registrations offering and the consequent need to regulate movements by quotas.

Sugar Facilities in Andhra

*2437. **Shri B. S. Murthy:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to refer to the reply given to unstarred question No. 333 on the 12th August, 1955 and state:

(a) the nature of facilities asked for by the applicants for starting new sugar factories in Andhra State; and

(b) the estimated amount to be invested these factories?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) The facilities asked for by the applicants are for the transport of sugarcane and sugar and supply of controlled materials e.g. cement and iron. The co-operative enterprises have also requested the State Government for financial assistance. The Central Government has decided to advance loans to the State Government for subscribing to the share capital of Co-operative sugar factories.

(d) The total investment in the case of three factories for the establishment of which licences have been issued so far is estimated at Rs. 2.25 crores.

Overbridge near Anantapur

*2438. **Shri Lakshmayya:** Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have received a representation or a memorandum from the Anantapur Municipality for the construction of an overbridge or underbridge on the Railway Line, at the level-crossing between old town and extensions of Anantapur; and

(b) if so, whether Government have considered it and granted a loan to the municipality for this purpose?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Damage to Crops in Bhopal

*2439. **Pandit C. N. Malviya:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that extensive damage has been caused to the *Kharif* crops on account of heavy rainfall in Bhopal State recently;

(b) if so, the areas affected;

(c) the extent of damage caused thereby;

(d) whether Government have received any request for assistance from the Government of Bhopal; and

(e) if so, the assistance proposed to be given?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) There has been excessive rainfall in Bhopal State since 3rd August 1955. Some damage has been caused to the *Kharif* crops but the extent of damage has not yet been fully ascertained,

(b) 35 villages Ichawar and Sehore Tehsils of Sehore District of Bhopal State have been affected.

(c) The extent of damage caused to the *Kharif* crops is roughly estimated at 4 to 6 annas in the rupee in the affected areas. The State Government has informed that the total damage worth Rs. 29,000/- has so far been brought to their notice.

(d) The State Government has not approached for any assistance so far in this connection.

(e) Does not arise

Indian Red Cross Society

*2440. **Shrimati Renu Chakravartty:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the workers of the Indian Red Cross Society were obstructed in their duties by the police during the recent firing on students in Patna; and

(b) if so, whether any enquiry has been made in the matter?

The Deputy Minister of Health (Shrimati Chandrasekhar): (a) and (b) A complaint has been received by the Indian Red Cross Society to this effect, and the matter is being investigated by the Society.

Manganese Mines (Orissa)

*2441. **Shri B. C. Das:** Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state:

(a) the demands of the workers of the Manganese Mines in Barbil; and

(b) the action Government propose to take in the matter?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Khandubhai Desai): (a) and (b). The hon. Member presumably refers to the work stoppage in the iron-ore mines in Barbil area. The workers of seven contractors in the Thakurani Mines, of the Orissa Mineral Development Company struck work on various dates commencing from the 16th June 1955 for the following two reasons:—

(i) Disparity in wage rates, and

(ii) Union rivalry.

The strike was called off on the 19th September 1955 following a settlement brought about by the Conciliation Officer (Central), Asansol, between the parties.

नेपाल में विमान परिवहन सञ्चार

*२४४२. श्री एम० एल० द्विवेदी :
क्या सञ्चार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि निकट भविष्य में नेपाल सरकार अपनी खुद की विमान परिवहन सेवाएँ (एयर लाइन्स) स्थापित करने का विचार रखती है; और

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो इस प्रयोजन के लिये नेपाल सरकार को किस प्रकार की सहायता दी गयी है या दी जाने वाली है ?

सञ्चार उपमंत्री (श्री राज बहादुर) :

(क) और (ख) में आदरणीय सवस्य महोदय का ध्यान मौखिक प्रश्न संख्या ७२ के उत्तर की ओर जो २४ अगस्त, सन् १९५४ को दिया गया था और मौखिक प्रश्न संख्या १७८ के उत्तर की ओर, जो १९ नवम्बर, १९५४ को दिया गया था दिलाना चाहता हूँ। यह मामला अभी बातचीत की व्यवस्था में ही है।

Sugar Policy

*2443. Shri D.C. Sharma: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether the sugar policy for 1955 has been framed by Government;

] (b) if so, the nature thereof;

(c) whether any sugar reserve is to be created;

(d) if so, the quantity thereof; and

(e) the sources from which it will be procured ?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) Sugar policy for 1955-56 season is under consideration.

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

Re-Sale of Tickets

*2044. Shri Dabhi: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1652, on the 30th March, 1955 and state:

(a) whether any final decision has since been taken regarding the punishment to be awarded to the Ticket Collector who was responsible for the re-sale of used tickets; and

(b) if so, the nature thereof ?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) and (b). It has not been possible to establish conclusively the guilt or complicity of the staff concerned, including the Ticket Collector who was charge-sheeted. All of them, however, have been transferred to other stations and placed under proper supervision.

Indian Airlines Corporation

*2445. Shri Gidwanji: Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 2400 on the 20th April, 1955 and state:

(a) the amount of loss actually incurred by the Indian Airlines Corporation during the year 1954-55; and

(b) the measures proposed to be taken to reduce the losses ?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) The loss for 1954-55 has been estimated at Rs. 115.59 lakhs. The actual figure is not at present available as the accounts of the Corporation for the year 1954-55 have still to be finalised.

(b) The Corporation are trying to reduce their losses by increasing the utilisation of its fleet of aircraft, by lifting more internal non-scheduled freight traffic, by developing charter work and by rationalising the fares and freight rates.

Veterinary College in Orissa

*2447. Shri Sangannari: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Government have agreed to subsidise the establishment of a Veterinary College in Orissa State; and

(b) if so, to what extent ?

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

(b) To the extent of 75 per cent. of the non-recurring expenditure. In case the State Government is not able to raise the balance 25% of the non-recurring expenditure, the Government of India will give it as a loan to the State Government.

रेलवे सामान समिति

*२४४८. श्री के० सी० सोषिया : क्या रेलवे मंत्री २६ जुलाई, १९५५ को दिये गये तारांकित प्रश्न संख्या २२४ के उत्तर के सम्बन्ध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या तब से सरकार को रेलवे सामान समिति की रिपोर्टें प्राप्त हो गई हैं;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उस की मुख्य सिफारिशें क्या हैं; और

(ग) यदि नहीं, तो रिपोर्टें के कब तक प्राप्त हो जाने की आशा है ?

रेलवे तथा परिवहन मंत्री के समावधिचक्र (श्री शाहनवाज खान) : (क) जी, नहीं ।

(ख) सवाल नहीं उठता ।

(ग) १९५६ के शुरू में ।

भारत-चीन विमान करार

*२४४९. श्री भामनत झा आजाद : क्या संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि चीन सरकार का एक प्रतिनिधि मंडल भारत-चीन विमान करार पर वार्ता करने के लिये भारत आ रहा है; और

(ख) क्या इस करार के बारे में पेरिस में कोई प्रारम्भिक वार्ता हुई है ?

संचार उपमंत्री (श्री राज बहादुर) :

(क) तथा (ख) इस समय इस विषय पर कोई भी विवरण प्रकट करना अनिष्ट नहीं होगा ।

Suspension of Railway Employees

*२४५०. श्री Deogam: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the number of officials of the Cash Office under the Chief Cash Witness, New Delhi who are at present under suspension;

(b) when they were suspended; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to expedite the disposal of their cases?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) One.

(b) From 8.11.54.

(c) The case is, at present, being investigated by the Special Police Establishment and they are being asked to finalise the case early.

Delhi-Madras Janta Express

*२४५१. श्री T.J.B. Vittal Rao: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to the reply given to the supplementaries to Starred Question No. 943 on the 20th August, 1955 and state:

(a) the points on the track between Delhi and Madras where there is not enough line capacity for increasing the frequency of tri-weekly Janta Express between Delhi and Madras; and

(b) the steps being taken to augment the same?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) In particular between Bhopal and Bina, but difficulty is also experienced on Balharshah-Kazipet Section.

(b) Proposals for increasing the line capacity of this section are under consideration.

International Dairy Federation

*२४५२. श्री Janardhan Reddy: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state the subjects discussed at the annual meeting of the International Dairy Federation held in Bonn from the 12th to the 17th September, 1955, in connection with the Indian Dairy?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): A large number of items was included in the Agenda for the annual meeting of the International Dairy Federation held at Bonn from the 12th to 17th September, 1955. One of the subjects of particular interest to Indian Dairying was "Tropical Dairying".

Full details of the subjects actually discussed would be known when the Indian Delegation returns to India and submits its report to Government.

Pharmacists

*2453. **Shri K.K. Das:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a decision has been taken to designate henceforth all registered compounders as "pharmacists"; and

(b) if so, whether the opinion of the All-India Medical Council has been taken in the matter?

The Deputy Minister of Health (Shrimati Chandrasekhar): (a) The Government of India have decided to designate as Pharmacists, all compounders working in hospitals, dispensaries etc. under the Government of India and registered under the Pharmacy Act, 1948.

(b) No

मिट्टी संरक्षण योजनायें

*२४५४. डा० राम सुभग सिंह : क्या खाद्य और कृषि मंत्री १२ अगस्त, १९५५ को दिये गये अंतरांकित प्रश्न संख्या ३२४ के उत्तर के सम्बन्ध में यह बताने की कृपा करें कि :

(क) चालू वर्ष में किन-किन राज्यों को मिट्टी संरक्षण योजनाओं के लिये वित्तीय सहायता दी गई है ;

(ख) प्रत्येक राज्य को कुल कितनी राशि की सहायता दी गई है; और

(ग) किन किन राज्यों ने ऐसी सहायता मांगी थी ?

कृषि मंत्री (डा० पी० एस० दशमुख):

(क) आन्ध्र, पश्चिम बंगाल, उड़ीसा, उत्तर प्रदेश, बम्बई, मध्य प्रदेश, मद्रास, पंजाब, हैदराबाद, पेंसू, मैसूर, सौराष्ट्र, त्रावनकोर-कोचीन, अजमेर और कच्छ ।

(ख) सभा की टेबिल पर एक विवरण रखा जाता है । [बेल्जिये परिशिष्ट १२, अनुबन्ध संख्या १६]

(ग) ऊपर लिखे हुए राज्यों के अलावा, विन्ध्य प्रदेश, बिहार, मध्य भारत, हिमाचल प्रदेश, मनीपुर और ब्रिटेमन्स से वित्तीय सहायता के लिये योजनायें आई हैं और उन पर विचार किया जा रहा है ।

Grand Trunk Express

*2456. **Shri Viswanath Reddy:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that several representations have been made to run a duplicate Grand Trunk Express daily;

(b) whether any investigation has been made in this regard; and

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

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) to (c). No, Sir—but representations have been received for increasing the frequency of the Delhi-Madras Janta Express from thrice a week to daily. An investigation has revealed that the present position in the matter of availability of rolling stock and line capacity will not permit this.

Contributory Health Service Scheme

*2457. **Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to lay on the Table of the House a statement showing:

(a) the names, quantity and values of various medicines purchased under the Contributory Health Scheme since the inception of the scheme in June, 1954;

(b) the procedure adopted to ensure purchases of standard quality;

(c) the number of cases where the medicines were tested in the Laboratories and the results thereof; and

(d) the action, if any, taken against the persons responsible for the purchase of sub-standard medicines?

The Deputy Minister of Health (Shrimati Chandrasekhar): (a) A statement giving the required information upto the end of July 1955 is placed on the Table of the Lok Sabha [See Appendix XII, annexure No. 17].

(b) Purchases are made by tender from reputed firms. The medicines purchased are also those manufactured by reputed concerns. As an additional safeguard, a warranty of quality under Section 19(3) of the Drugs Act, 1940 is insisted upon in every case before the purchase is made.

(c) Two; Each of them passed the laboratory test.

(d) Does not arise.

Conversion of Metre Gauge Line

*2458. **Shri Lakshmayya** : Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to convert any line from metre gauge into broad gauge in the Southern Zone;

(b) if so, the names of such lines; and

(c) the factors to be taken into account for effecting such a change ?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan) (a) and (b). Yes, Sir; so far only one line, namely the Renigunta-Gudur, the conversion of which is already in hand.

(c) The conversion of this line from metre gauge to broad gauge has been taken up on operational grounds.

Railway Sleepers

*2459. **Shri Raghunath Singh**: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Concrete Railway ties (Sleeper) were given a trial by the Indian Railways; and

(b) if so, the results thereof ?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The results do not as yet justify large scale adoption of such sleepers, but the trials are continuing.

Raising of Platforms

*2460. **Shri Kamath**: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that there are many low level platforms on the Betul-Jubbulpore section of the Central Railway;

(b) if so, the number of such platforms raised or to be raised during the First Five Year Plan period, together with the names of those stations; and

(c) the names of the stations whose platforms are proposed to be raised during the Second Five Year Plan period ?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The platforms at two stations viz. Madan Mahal and Goteagaon were raised during the First Five Year Plan period.

(c) Proposals for raising the platforms during the Second Five Year Plan period are under consideration.

Khajipet-Macherla-Nellore Link

*2461. **Shri B. S. Murthy**: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Khajipet-Macherla-Nellore line proposed by the Andhra State Government has been ordered for survey;

(b) if so, the results thereof; and

(c) the total amount to be spent on this line ?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) Kazipet-Nellore line has not been recommended by the Andhra Government for construction during the Second Five Year Plan period. The proposal for constructing this line is, however, being examined on operational grounds as an alternative to the doubling of the Bezwada-Gudur Section. No survey for the Kazipet-Nellore line has so far been sanctioned.

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

Inland Water Transport

*2463. { **Shri D. C. Sharma**:
Shri Jhulan Sinha:

Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state :

(a) the nature of the development schemes for Inland Water Transport in the country to be undertaken during the Second Five Year Plan; and

(b) whether suggestions have been invited in this connection from the State Governments ?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) The Second Five Year Plan has not yet been finalised. It is proposed to provide in the Plan for improving the navigability of important waterways by deepening and widening, improving the navigational aids and development of important river ghats.

(b) Yes.

Cooperative Organisation

*2464. **Thakur Jugal Kishore Sinha**: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state :

(a) the scheme sanctioned for co-operative organisations in the tribal areas of Bihar;

(b) the amount of grant sanctioned;

(c) the manner in which it has been utilized so far;

(d) whether any Co-operative Bank has been debarred from getting Government assistance; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) to (c). A statement is placed on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix XII, annexure No. 18].

Price Support Scheme for Rice

*2465. { **Shri Sanganna:**
Shri Radha Ramani:
Shri Viswanatha Reddy:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that State Governments have started to purchase rice and paddy under the Price Support Scheme;

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

(c) the extent to which the purchases will be made by them; and

(d) how the States will be affected in case the price of rice shoots up due to drought conditions?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) No, Sir, not yet.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) It is difficult to indicate the extent to which purchases will be made, as under the Price Support Scheme, purchases will be made only when the price of coarse rice falls below Rs. 11/- per maund.

(d) If the price in any State tends to rise steeply owing to drought or other conditions, no purchases under the Price Support Scheme will be made in that State. On the other hand, Government will release rice from its own stocks in the Central Reserve in order to bring down prices.

Nutritional Value of Rice

*2466. **Shri Deogun:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a recent study of the nutritional value of rice has shown that the rice diet is responsible for high incidence of blindness; and

(b) if so, whether Government will publish the findings of the research work done, in all the regional languages for the benefit of the masses?

The Deputy Minister of Health (Shrimati Chandrasekhar): (a) There has been no recent study on the nutritional value of rice in relation to blindness.

(b) Does not arise.

Grand Trunk Express

*2467. **Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to the reply given to the General Discussion on Railway Budget for 1955-56 on the 4th March, 1955 and state:

(a) whether any decision has since been taken for converting the Grand Trunk Express into a mail train with increased speed;

(b) if so, from what date it will be given effect to; and

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

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix XII, annexure No. 19].

Train Accident

*2468. { **Shri Janardhan Reddy:**
Shri M. L. Agrawal:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Kasganj-Achnera Up Goods Train bound for Achnera met with a serious accident between Ratikanagla and Hathras Junction on the North Eastern Railway on the 10th September, 1955; and

(b) if so, the causes of the accident?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) At about 10-10 hours on 10-9-1955 while No. 1 Up Goods train was running between Rati-Ka-Nagla and Hathras stations on the Kasganj-Achnera Section of the North Eastern Railway, 5 wagons and a brake van on the train derailed and capsized and 2 wagons derailed.

(b) The derailment was caused by the breakage of sole bar flange of a wagon due to flaw in the sole bar.

Urban Health Unit

*2469. **Shri K. K. Das:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether an Urban Health Unit jointly sponsored by the Government of India, the Government of West Bengal

UNICEF and the Corporation of Calcutta is proposed to be set up in Calcutta shortly; and

(b) if so, the details of the scheme including the total estimated expenditure and the contributions made by each of the said parties?

The Deputy Minister of Health (Shrimati Chandrasekhar): (a) Yes.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix XII, annexure No. 20].

Postal Life Insurance Directorate, Calcutta

*2470. **Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that discharge notices have been served to some employees of the office of the Director, Postal Life Insurance, Calcutta;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps Government have taken or propose to take to absorb them?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Yes.

(b) They have failed in the confirmation examination even in the additional chances that were given as a grace.

(c) Under the rules in force even before they came under the control of the P. & T. from the audit, if they do not pass the confirmation examination they are liable to be discharged.

Guntakal-Bangalore Link

*2471. **Shri Lakshmayya:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether any representation has been received from the public for the conversion of the Guntakal-Bangalore metre gauge line into a broad gauge line; and

(b) if so, the decision taken thereon?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The proposal is not considered justified as it would defeat the very object of joining the Northern and Southern metre gauge systems by the construction of the railway line between Khandwa and Hingoli.

Strike Notice by C.T.O. Employees

*2472 { **Shri Kamath :**
Shri Naval Prabhakar :

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Tractor Organisation Employees' Union has served a notice to the effect that they will go on strike on the 20th September, 1955 ;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take in this regard ?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P.S. Deshmukh) : (a) There was such a notice which has since been withdrawn.

(b) The main reason for the strike was the proposal to effect retrenchment on the basis of categorisation of the staff.

(c) It has been decided that retrenchment will not be made on the basis of categorisation but on the basis of 'last come, first out'.

Appointments in Delhi Circle

*2473. **Shri Thanu Pillai :** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the applicants from Madras for Service in the Posts and Telegraphs Department are rejected by the Delhi circle on the ground that they have not studied geography; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that geography is taught by the schools in Madras as 'Social Studies' and such qualification is recognised by the Madras Circle ?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Yes, in a few cases as the candidates did not mention that 'Social Studies' includes Geography.

(b) Yes. Orders have been issued to the Delhi and other Circles to accept such applications.

Frauds

1301. **Shri Ibrahim:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state :

(a) the number of prosecutions launched in each circle against postal employees for the misappropriation or defalcation of public money in the years 1953-54 and 1954-55 ; and

(b) the number of cases amongst them which ended in conviction ?

The Deputy Minister of Communication (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) and (b). A statement giving the required information is given below :—

Name of the Circle	No. of Prosecutions		No. of convictions	
	1953	1954	1953	1954
	-54	-55	-54	-55
Assam	22	24	5	2
Orissa	19	6	7	..
Uttar Pradesh	44	44	17	11
Andhra	14	7	5	5
Punjab	26	22	21	13
Madras	103	34	39	6
Central(Nagpur)	15	3	4	1
Bombay	34	32	10	15
West Bengal	40	46	29	35
Bihar	38	53	7	5
Delhi	11	4	5	..
Rajasthan	3	15	1	2
Hyderabad	23	42	..	4

Seamen

1302. Shri Ibrahim: Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state :

(a) the number of seamen employed in Indian owned ships ; and

(b) the number of India nationals among them ?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan) : (a) 4335.

(b) 3362.

Training of Doctors

1303. Shri Ibrahim : Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Indian doctors who have been sent abroad for specialised training in hospitals since January, 1953;

(b) the number of lady doctors among them ; and

(c) the names of the countries where they have been sent ?

The Deputy Minister of Health (Shrimati Chandrasekhar) : (a) One hundred and one.

(b) Thirteen.

(c) U. K., U. S. A., Canada, New Zealand, Denmark, Norway, Holland, Sweden, Switzerland, Germany, Yugoslavia, Finland and Austria.

रेल दुर्घटना

१३०४. श्री रघुनाथ सिंह : क्या रेलवे मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि १३ जून, १९५५ को राजकोट-सूरत-खारनगर लाइन पर शाम के ३ बजे, ६७५ ग्रप फास्ट मिक्सड ट्रेन के ११ डिब्बे और एक ब्रेक का डिब्बा, पटरी से उतर गये और उलट गये; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो दुर्घटना में हताहतों की संख्या क्या है ?

रेलवे तथा परिवहन मंत्री के सभासचिव (श्री शाहनवाज खां) : (क) १३-६-५५ को दिन के लगभग २ बज कर ५० मिनट पर, जब ६७५ ग्रप फास्ट मिक्सड गाड़ी पश्चिम रेलवे के राजकोट-सुरेन्द्रनगर मीटर लाइन के रामपरडा और मुली रोड स्टेशनों के बीच जा रही थी, उस के सब से पीछे वाले ११ माल डिब्बे और एक ब्रेक वान पटरी से उतर गये। इन में से ६ माल डिब्बे उलट गये।

(ख) न कोई मरा और न घायल हुआ।

Game Sanctuaries

1305. Shri Karni Singhji: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the places in the various States where game sanctuaries have been set up in pursuance of the scheme for the protection of wild life in the country;

(b) the amount allotted by the Planning Commission for this purpose ; and

(c) the [amount so far spent in Rajasthan?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh) : (a) Information is as follows :

Name of the State	Sanctuaries.
1. Madras	Madumalai Sanctuary in the Nilgiris Distt.
2. Ajmer	Dadalia Game Sanctuary in Todgarh Range Forest.

Name of the State	Sanctuaries.
3. Pepsu .	Nine in Patiala Distt; one in Kapurthala and one in Sangrur Distt.
4. Assam .	Two in Sibsagar Distt; one in Kamrup Distt; one in Darrang Distt; one in North Lakhimpur Distt. one in Darrange Distt. and one in Nowgong Distt.
5. Hyderabad .	Two in Warangal Distt; and one in Madak Distt.
6. Orissa .	Two in Puri Division, one in Angul Division and one in Barpahar Division.
7. Bihar .	Two in Hazaribagh Distt. Three in Singhbhum Distt. one in Palamau Distt.
8. Punjab .	One in Gurdaspur Distt. One in Simla Distt. One in Hissar Distt. One in Amritsar Distt. One in Kangra Distt.
9. Vindhya Pradesh	One in Panna Division and one in Rewa Division.
10. West Bengal	One in Cooch Behar Distt. Two in Jalpaiguri Distt. One in Darjeeling Distt. and one in Twenty four Parganas.
11. Mysore .	Bandipur Game Sanctuary and Jaggar Valley Sanctuary.
12. Manipur .	Keibul Lamjao Game Sanctuary to the South West of Imphal.
13. U. P. .	One in Saharanpur Forest Division, one in Dehra Dun Forest Division, one at Pilang, one at Jangla and Harsil, one at Patangri, one at Yamnotri, one at Obraged and one in Kumaon Distt.
14. Travancore-Cochin.	Pariyar Game Sanctuary in Kottayam Distt.
15. Jammu & Kashmir	Four in Kashmir and one in Jammu Division.

Name of the State	Sanctuaries.
16. Coorg .	One Comprising whole of Arkeri Halghat and Nalkeri reserve forest.
17. Rajasthan .	One in Kota Division, one in Jaipur Division; three in Bharatpur Division.
18. Bombay .	Dandeli Game Sanctuary in North Kanara Distt. is being established.
19. Madhya Pradesh	One in Mandla Distt. and one in Chanda Distt.

(b) and (c). Do not arise as these game sanctuaries are established and maintained by the State Government at their own cost.

Milk Supply on Railways

1306. **Shri Raghavaiah:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is an order that Co-operative Milk Societies should be given preferential treatment in the acceptance of tenders for the supply of Milk on Railways ;

(b) whether any reference was made to the Andhra State Government with regard to the award of contracts for the supply of milk to any of the vegetarian Refreshment Rooms in the State; and

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

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) and (b) No.

(c) Does not arise.

Industrial Training Institutes, Jorhat

1307. **Shri Chaliha:** Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state :

(a) whether the training courses in certain trades in the Industrial Training Institute, Jorhat have been abolished ; and

(b) if so, the names of the trades ?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Khandubhai Desai): (a) Yes.

(b) The trades of (i) Building Constructor, (ii) Draughtsman (Mech), (iii) Mechanic (I. C. E.), (iv) Moulder, (v) Pattern Maker and (vi) stenography.

(English) which were in existence during the previous session were abolished with the commencement of the current session which started from August, 1954.

International Wheat Conference

1308. **Shri N. B. Chowdhury**: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state whether Government have decided to participate in the International Wheat Conference likely to be held in October, 1955?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): Decision to participate in the International Wheat Conference to be held in October, 1955 will be taken when a formal invitation is received. So far no invitation has come.

Deragopipur Bridge

1309. **Shri Hem Raj**: Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) the grants made by the Central Government to the Punjab Government, for the construction of the Deragopipur Bridge during the years 1953, 1954 and 1955 and proposed to be given in 1956; and

(b) the money utilised by the Punjab Government year-wise and the amount that lapsed?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) and (b). Approval to meet 60 per cent. of the estimated cost of the bridge, subject to a maximum of Rs. 18 lakhs, from the State allocations from the Central Road Fund was accorded in July 1954. Against this approval, the State Government can incur expenditure subject to the availability of funds in the State allocations and no annual grants are made by the Government of India.

National Highways, Madhya Pradesh

1310. **Shri Kamath**: Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to lay on the Table of the House a statement showing the details of the National Highways existing at present or are being built in Madhya Pradesh?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): A statement giving details of the existing National Highways in Madhya Pradesh is attached. [See Appendix XII, annexure No. 21]. No new National Highways are being built in Madhya Pradesh.

Amenities in Staff Quarters

1311. **Chaudhri Muhammed Shafiee**: Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that Government propose to provide separate water taps and latrines in Class IV Staff Quarters belonging to Posts and Telegraphs Department;

(b) if so, when; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) There is a proposal to provide separate water taps in Class IV quarters in Delhi and New Delhi only. But there is no proposal to provide separate latrines.

(b) Recently the Government have approved the proposal regarding provision of taps for class IV officials quarters in Delhi and New Delhi only and they are expected to be provided as soon as possible.

(c) The standards of residential accommodation adopted by the P. & T. Department are the same as those followed by the Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply. These standards do not provide separate latrines for class IV Staff quarters.

Task Work Earnings

1312. **Chaudhri Muhammed Shafiee**: Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the task work earnings have been granted to task work messengers as a part of pay for the purpose of calculating dearness allowance with effect from the 1st December, 1954 and not from the 1st January, 1947, as recommended by the Central Pay Commission; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Yes, the concession has been granted with effect from the 1st December, 1954, but it is not a fact that the Central Pay Commission had recommended it from the 1st January, 1947.

(b) Does not arise in view of the reply to (a) above.

Class IV Employees Quarters

1313. **Chaudhri Muhammed Shafiee**: Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Class IV employees who were billeted in peon quarters in 1947 have not so far been provided with separate accommodation; and

(b) if so, the steps Government propose to take in the matter?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur) : (a) and (b). Presumably the Member is referring to the practice of allotting single sets of peon type quarters to two officials. This practice was adopted during and after partition on order to meet the acute shortage of residential quarters. As and when accommodation becomes available for officials sharing these quarters the existing practice is being discontinued.

Provision of Telephones

1314. Shri Kamath : Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to provide telephones at Railway stations where public telephone exchanges are already available; and

(b) if so, whether Itarsi, Pipariya, Gadarwara, Kareli and Narsinghpur Stations on the Central Railway will be provided with telephones?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan) : (a) Yes, Sir, provided there is sufficient justification.

(b) This is under consideration.

Corruption Cases

1315. Shri Deogam : Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state :

(a) the number of corruption cases detected by the Special Police Establishment in the Northern Railway during 1954-55 and 1955-56 so far ;

(b) the number of such cases discharged; and

(c) the maximum period taken to discharge a case?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan) : (a)

1954-1955

1955-56

(upto 22.9.55).

40

26

(b) and (c). The implication of (b) and (c) is not clear. The present position however is that of the 66 cases, 40 are under investigation, 20 have been put into court, 4 have been returned for departmental action, one has been handed over to local police and in one case sanction to prosecution is being obtained.

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Postal Employees

1316. Shri D. C. Sharma : Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state :

(a) the number of employees of the Posts and Telegraphs Department dismissed or removed from service during the years from 1952 to 1954 on account of their taking part in cultural activities ;

(b) whether any employee has been dismissed or removed from service during the years 1952-54 for actively helping any political organisation ; and

(c) if so, how many?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur) :

(a) (i) Dismissed—Nil.

(ii) Removed—Nil.

(b) Yes.

(c) (i) Dismissed—Two

(ii) Removed—Eight.

Railway Inspectorate

1317. Shri S. C. Samanta : Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state :

(a) the present strength of the Railway Inspectorate staff and how it compares with the strength in 1947 ; and

(b) the number of applications dealt with by the Inspectorate in respect of the following since 1952, year by year :—

(i) infringement of standard dimensions ;

(ii) Sanction to the running of new types of locomotives ; and

(iii) rolling stock?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur) : (a) and (b). Two statements giving the required information are laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix XII, annexure No. 22].

हैदराबाद में तार घर

१३१८. श्री कृष्णाचार्य जोशी : क्या संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या हैदराबाद राज्य के प्रत्येक तालका (तहसील) हैडक्वार्टर में एक तारघर खोला गया है ;

(ख) यदि नहीं, तो कितने स्थानों में अभी भी तारघर खोले जाने हैं ?

संचार उपमंत्री (श्री राज बहादुर) :
(क) जी, नहीं ।

(ख) ६६ तहसीलों में से ७८ स्थानों पर तार-घर खोले जाने हैं । ५३ स्थानों पर तार-घर खोले जाने की स्वीकृति दी जा चुकी है और इस वर्ष २० और स्थानों की स्वीकृति दिये जाने की सम्भावना है ।

Cases before Labour Tribunals

1319. **Chaudhri Muhammed Shafee** : Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state :

(a) the number of cases in Central sphere pending before the Labour Tribunals set up in the country under the Industrial Disputes Act since the 1st January, 1955 ; State-wise.

(b) the causes for delay in the disposal of cases ;

(c) the time expected to be taken for their final disposal ; and

(d) the number of occasions when such Tribunals were boycotted by labourers in India, State-wise ?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Khandubhai Desai) : (a) to (c). 13 disputes were pending with the Central Government Industrial Tribunals on the 1st January 1955. Since then 24 fresh disputes were referred. 8 of the 13 old disputes and 8 of the 24 new disputes have been disposed of. Particulars of the 21 undisposed of disputes are given in the attached statement. [See Appendix XII, annexure No. 23].

(d) No such instance has come to the notice of Government.

Negligence of Duty

1320. **Pandit D. N. Tiwary** : Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to State:

(a) whether it is a fact that on the 1st June, 1955 the driver of a passenger train and a clerk of the Regional Traffic Superintendent's office, Muzaffarpur were taking toddy in a First Class Compartment near Jivdhara Railway Station on the North Eastern Railway and the train was run by the fireman; and

(b) if so, whether any action has been taken in the matter ?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan) : (a) and (b).

It was reported by the Prosecuting Inspector, Government Railway Police, Samastipur, that the driver of 505 Up was noticed at Jivdhara Station on 1.6.55 taking toddy with a clerk of the Regional Traffic Superintendent's office, in a First Class Compartment and that he had allowed his Fireman to take the train to Motihari. An enquiry is already under way.

Railway Equipment and Stores

Shri B. D. Shastri : Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state :

(a) the value of equipment and stores imported from different countries during the years 1953-54 and 1954-55;

(b) from which countries these were mainly imported; and

(c) whether any proposal to give special facilities to firms engaged in this work is under the consideration of Government ?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan) : (a) 1953-54 Rs. 25.6 crores. 1954-55—Figures are not yet available.

(b) U.K., Germany, Belgium, Austria, France, Italy, U.S.A. and Japan.

(c) Presumably the Hon'ble Member refers to the facilities to be given to firms here who have undertaken the manufacture in India of Railway Equipment and Stores hitherto imported; if so, it is confirmed that every possible form of encouragement and preference is given to such firms.

रेल डिब्बों का कारखाना

१३२२. श्री एम० एल० द्विवेदी : क्या रेलवे मंत्री ३० अगस्त, १९५५ को दिये गये भ्रतारांकित प्रश्न संख्या ६६० के उत्तर के सम्बन्ध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) विशाखापटनम में जो कारखाना खोलने का विचार है, उस के लिये किन-किन देशों से मशीनें और अन्य पुर्जे आयात किये जायेंगे, और इन मशीनों का मूल्य क्या होगा ;

(ख) रेल के डिब्बों को बनाने के लिये आवश्यक माल आयात करने के लिये किन देशों से प्रबन्ध किया जा रहा है ;

(ग) क्या रेल के डिब्बे बनाने के वर्तमान कारखानों की उत्पादन-क्षमता बढ़ाने और नये कारखाने स्थापित करने की सम्भावनाओं पर विचार किया गया है; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो उन की रूप रेखा क्या है ?

रेलवे तथा परिवहन मंत्री के समासचिव (श्री शाहनवाज खां) : (क) विदेशों से सामान मंगा कर माल-डिब्बे तैयार करने के लिये विशाखापटनम में कारखाना खोलने का विचार नहीं है। यह काम ठेके पर कराया जायेगा। डिब्बे बनाने के लिये जरूरी मशीनों और प्लान्ट का प्रबन्ध ठेकेदार करेगा।

(ख) विशाखापटनम याई में तैयार होने वाले माल-डिब्बों के सामान अमरीका, इंग्लैंड, आस्ट्रिया और चैकोस्लोवाकिया से मंगाये जायेंगे।

(ग) जी, हां।

(घ) रेल सामान समिति (Railway Equipment Committee) बनायी जा

चुकी है, जो इस सम्बन्ध में सुझाव देगी कि किन किन कारखानों में काम नहीं हो रहा है और चालू कारखानों में काम किस तरह बढ़ाया जाये। इस समय रेल के जो कलपुर्जे, इंजन, डिब्बे आदि बाहर से मंगाये जाते हैं उन्हें अपने देश में तैयार करने के लिये नये उद्योग-धंधे शुरू करने के सम्बन्ध में भी समिति सुझाव देगी।

Railway Freight

1323. **Shri Deogam:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the manner in which Messrs. Baijnath Sarda, India Trade Corporation, S. Lall and Co. Ltd., Bird and Co. Ltd., Burmah Shell Oil Storage and Distributing Co. of India Ltd. of Calcutta used to pay their Railway freights during the year 1953-54 at Kidderpore Docks;

(b) whether any of the above firms were asked to deposit security;

(c) the names of the firms from which further security was demanded, and the amount of the additional security;

(d) whether any of the firm's Credit Note facility has been withdrawn; and

(e) if so, under what circumstances?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan):

(a)	Name of firms	Manner of payment of Railway freight
	M/s Baijnath Sarda	By Credit Note (upto 3-2-54) and by cash aft. 3-2-54.
	M/s India Trade Corporation.	Under 'weight only' system.
	M/s. S. Lall & Co. Ltd.	By Credit Note.
	M/s. Bird & Co. Ltd.	Under 'weight only' system.
	M/s. Burmah Shell Oil Storage & Distributing Co. of India Ltd.	By Credit Note.

(b) Yes.

(c) Name of firms. Amount of additional security.

M/s. Baijnath Rs. 1,10,400/- since
Sarda reduced to Rs. 18,200/-

M/s. S. Lal & Co. Rs. 1,05,250/- since
Ltd. reduced to Rs. 27,100/-

(d) and (e). The Credit Note facility was withdrawn from M/s. Baijnath Sarda as they failed to deposit the additional security demanded from them; but this facility has been subsequently restored to them from 25-8-1955, on their depositing the reduced demand of additional security.

Railway Coaches

1324. **Shri C. R. Chowdary:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Shell Coaches imported during 1954 and 1955 so far; and

(b) the time it will take to put them into use?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a)

1954 { 34 Broad Gauge
288 Metre Gauge.

Total: 322

1955 { 16 Broad Gauge.
112 Metre Gauge.

Total: 128

(b) By the middle of 1956.

Passenger Amenities

1325. **Shri Dhulya:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the passenger trains which run between Gorakhpur and Gonda are not provided with lights and fans in the Coaches attached to them;

(b) whether it is a fact that III class coaches on these trains go without water in latrines;

(c) whether it is also a fact the sweepers are also not available to clean the latrines of coaches on any station; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No. All rakes are fully watered before leaving Gorakhpur or Gonda.

(c) No. Carriage cleaners and sweepers are available at Gorakhpur and Gonda. Sweepers are also available at important intermediate stations.

(d) Does not arise.

Indian Airlines Corporation

1326. **Shri Kajrolkar:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the steps Government propose to take to modernise the present fleet of aircrafts;

(b) whether any directions have been given to the Indian Airlines Corporation by Government to formulate a scheme for such modernisation;

(c) when the new aircrafts will begin to operate and on what routes; and

(d) the steps Government propose to take to improve the night Air Mail Service to provide safety and comfort to passengers?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) and (b). With the approval of Government, the Indian Airlines Corporation has placed orders for 5 Viscount aircraft. Provision has also been proposed in the Second Five Year Plan for the purchase of 5 more Viscount aircraft and 28 medium-sized modern aircraft of a suitable type for replacing the Dakotas.

(c) The first 5 Viscounts are expected to be delivered during the second half of 1957 and will be operated on major trunk routes to the neighbouring countries. It is not possible to indicate at present when the other type of aircraft will become available and will be put in service.

(d) It is proposed to operate the night Mail Services with the Skymaster type of aircraft. The Corporation have for this purpose recently acquired 3 such aircraft in addition to the three aircraft of this type already with them.

डाक व तार प्रशिक्षण केन्द्र

१३२७. श्री के० सी० सोर्धिया : क्या संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) डाक व तार विभाग में अब तक कितने नये प्रशिक्षण और शिक्षा केन्द्र खोले गये हैं;

(ख) वे किन स्थानों पर खोले गये हैं; और

(ग) ऐसे कुल कितने केन्द्र स्थापित किये जायेंगे ?

संचार उपमंत्री (श्री राज बहादुर) :

(क) तथा (ख). एक विवरण-पत्र सभा-पटल पर रक्खा जाता है। [द्वैतिय परिशिष्ट १२, अनुबन्ध संख्या २४]

(ग) निम्नलिखित अन्य केन्द्रों के खोलने का प्रस्ताव है :—

१. डाक-तार प्रशिक्षण केन्द्र ४

२. डाक प्रशिक्षण कक्षाएँ १४

३. टेलीफोन मैकेनिकों, निरीक्षकों (inspectors) तथा वायरमैनो के लिये प्रशिक्षण कक्षाएँ ३

४. हिन्दी मोर्स प्रशिक्षण कक्षा १

५. टेलीफोन अपरेटरों की प्रशिक्षण कक्षाएँ २

कुल योग २४

Imphal Town Fund Elections

1328. Shri Rishang Keishing: Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Manipur has completed the preparation of the electoral rolls for the Imphal Town Fund elections;

(b) when the elections will take place; and

(c) the areas or locality included in the Imphal Town Fund?

The Deputy Minister of Health (Shri-mati Chadraseshar: (a) Yes.

(b) In December, 1955.

(c) The undermentioned areas and localities are included in the Imphal Town Fund:—

(i) The area bounded by the following line:—

Starting from the junction of the Rifle Range Road on the Indo-Burma Road, then following westwards and northern boundary of the D. M. College compound upto the junction of the Rifle Range Road and the Thangmeitand Road, then turning southwards and running along the Thangmeitand Road, the Naga Nulla and the Nambul stream upto the Keisimthong Bridge, then turning eastwards and following the Keisimthong Road upto its junction with the Indo-Burma Road; then extending in a straight line crossing the Imphal River and Joining the South-western corner of the Palace Compound; then running eastwards along the southern and eastern boundaries of the palace upto the junction of the eastern boundary of the Palace with the Yairipok Road; then running northwards along the Yairipok Road upto its junction with the Ukhrul Road; from the junction of the Yairipok Road, the Ukhrul Road and the Indo-Burma Road again back to the junction with the Rifle Range Road.

(ii) The compound of the Courts of the District and Sessions Judge, Sub-Judge and Munsiff in Uriripok.

(iii) Singjamei Bazar.

(iv) Nipakeithel.

The total area involved is 1.2 square miles.

Central Godowns in Orissa

1329. Shri Sanganna: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 747 on the 10th September, 1954 regarding Central Godowns in Orissa and state:

(a) whether the scheme has been abandoned or is being proceeded with;

(b) if the scheme is under execution, the progress made so far; and

(c) whether the drought conditions in Orissa have anything to do with the scheme?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P.S. Deshmukh): (a) The scheme is being proceeded with.

(b) Suitable sites have been acquired and estimates of expenditure also prepared in respect of construction of godowns with a capacity of 15 000 tons each at Khurda Road and Khariar Road. Suitable sites have also been finally selected and are being acquired at Koraput and Chandbali for construction of godowns with a capacity of 20,000 tons at each place. Final selection of suitable sites at Berhampur and Balaore for construction of godowns with a capacity of 20,000 tons and 40,000 tons each respectively in hand.

(c) No.

Central Organisations of Labour

1330. **Thakur Jugal Kishore Sinha:** Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state:

(a) the names of all the Central Organisations of labour with their respective membership as on the 31st March, 1955; and

(b) the membership of the independent trade unions not affiliated to any Central Labour Organisation?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Khandubhai Desai): (a) The main All-India Central Organisations of labour are:—

- (1) Indian National Trade Union Congress;
- (2) Hind Mazdoor Sabha;
- (3) All India Trade Union Congress;
- (4) United Trades Union Congress.

The verified membership figures as on 31st March 1955 in respect of these organisations are not yet available.

(b) Information is not readily available.

Locomotives

1331. **Shri Raghunath Singh:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state the number of locomotives manufactured in India and delivered to the Indian Railways from the 1st January to the 31st August, 1955?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan):

	Broad Gauge.	Metre Gauge.	Total
Manufactured .	82	35	117
Delivered .	75	30	105

Railway Coaches

1332. **Shri Wodeyar:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the number of metre gauge coaches manufactured in the Hindustan Aircraft Ltd., Bangalore, during 1954-55 and 1955-56 (so far); and

(b) how many of them were put on rails for service in Mysore State?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) None. Hindustan Aircraft Limited, Bangalore are at present manufacturing Broad Gauge Steelbody Class III coaches.

(b) Does not arise.

Rajkumari Sports Coaching Scheme

1333. **Shri K. K. Das:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) the grants-in-aid sanctioned by Government for the 'Rajkumari Sports Coaching Scheme' since its inception;

(b) whether the above scheme has been sponsored by Government;

(c) how its finances are met; and

(d) the names of the office-bearers of the Organization?

The Deputy Minister of Health (Shrimati Chandrasekhar): (a) The following grants-in-aid have so far been given to the Rajkumari Sports Coaching Scheme:—

During 1953-54	Rs. 75,000
During 1954-55	Rs. 2,00,000
During 1955-56	Rs. 2,00,000

An additional sum of Rs. 1 lakh will be sanctioned before the close of the current financial year;

(b) Yes;

(c) From the grants-in-aid paid by the Government from time to time;

(d) The names are:

1. Health Minister	Chairman
2. Commander-in-Chief	Member.
3. Shri V.K.B. Pillai, (Ministry of Health)	Member
4. Shri S. Ratnam (Ministry of Finance)	Member
5. Shri V. Shankar	Member
6. Shri Krishna Prasada	Member
7. Dr. Dev Raj Narang	Member
8. Shri V.P. Nair, M.P.	Member
9. Shri Jaipal Singh, M.P.	Member
10. Shri Z.R. Irani, A.C.A.	Hony. Treasurer.
11. Shri A.S. deMelo	Hony. Secretary.

New Railway Line

1334. **Shri Sanganna:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Orissa have proposed for the inclusion of Gunpur-Rayagada Railway line in the Second Five Year Plan; and

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

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The proposal would be considered while selecting new lines for construction during the Second Five Year Plan Period.

International Training Centre

1335. Shri Sanganna: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an International Training Centre has been opened at Cuttack from the 1st September, 1955;

(b) if so, its programme; and

(c) whether any portion of the expenditure incurred on training will be borne by the foreign countries and the States in India?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) Yes. The Second International Training Centre on Rice Breeding was inaugurated at the Central Rice Research Institute, Cuttack, on the 1st September, 1955, under the joint auspices of the Government of India and the F.A.O. of the United Nations.

(b) The Centre is intended to provide advanced training in the theory and techniques of rice breeding and in field experimentation relating to rice improvement. Instruction, practical field work and seminar are being conducted by highly qualified lecturers.

The course is intended for officers who are or will be actively engaged in experimental work on the improvement of rice varieties. Trainees are required personally to participate in the designing and planting of field in the analysis of data derived from them, and in other typical experiment.

The programme covers visits to important Rice Research Centres in India for study of the large-scale organisation of rice breeding programmes and of methods developed for the multiplication and distribution of improved seed.

(c) The Foreign Governments and State Governments in India have to incur expenditure on travel cost of their nominees from their headquarters to Cuttack, in addition to payment of normal salary admissible to them in the respective countries.

Railway Siding

1336. Shri Deogam: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are enough 'Public Sidings' to place six rakes (full train) in Barajamda/Barbil area;

(b) if not, whether Government propose to provide one more "Public Ore Loading Siding" of 'one rake capacity' at Barajamda, Noamundi and Barbil Stations;

(c) whether all the export quota holders of ores and mine-owners do not have stacking plots at Barbil 'Public Ore Loading Siding'; and

(d) if so, whether Government propose to allot at least one plot to each Export Quota-holder at Barbil for stacking Ores, till they are loaded in wagons?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) No, Sir.

(b) In view of total movement capacity for export ores at present from Barajamda, Barbil and Noamundi areas being limited to three rakes, an increase in loading capacity will not serve any useful purpose.

(c) There are some export quota-holders and mine-owners who have no Railway plot at Barbil Public Ore Loading Siding. Some lessees who are doing business at Barbil since years have acquire more than one plot as there was no heavy demand for plots at Barbil as at present.

(d) Does not arise as no vacant plots are available for allotment at Barbil.

Breaches on Railway Line

1337. Shri Amjad Ali: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state the names of the places where breaches occurred on the Railway line between Bongaigaon and Amingaon from 1951 to 1955?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): 1. There was no breach during the year 1951.

2. Names of the places where lines breached during 1952 are—

- (i) between Bongaigaon & Chaprakata;
- (ii) between Chaprakata and Bijni;
- (iii) between Sorupeta and Pathshala;
- (iv) between Tihu and Kaithalkuchi; and
- (v) between Ghograpar and Rangiya.

3. There was no breach during 1953.

4. During 1954 the line at the following places was breached:—

- (i) between Sorupeta and Pathshala;
- (ii) two breaches between Barpeta Road and Sorupeta;
- (iii) between Patiladaha and Bijni; and
- (iv) between Bijni and Chaprakata.

5. In 1955 breaches occurred at two places between Bijni and Chaprakata.

रेलवे बोर्ड

१३३८. श्री अमर सिंह डालर : क्या रेलवे मंत्री ३० मार्च, १९५५ को दिये गये तारांकित प्रश्न संख्या १६७४ के उत्तर के सम्बन्ध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि क्या तब से आदिवासियों को कोई प्रतिनिधि रेलवे बोर्ड में लिया गया है ?

रेलवे तथा परिवहन मंत्री के सभासच्चिव (श्री शाहनवाज खान) : जी, नहीं ।

Loss to Railway Equipment

1339. **Shri H. G. Vaishnav**: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state the total loss caused to the Railway Equipment in the train accident at Jangaon on the 27th September, 1954?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (**Shri Shahnawaz Khan**): The approximate total cost of damage to Railway property viz. Engine, Rolling Stock, Permanent Way and Bridge, was Rs. 3,80,500/-.

B. C. G. Vaccination

1340. **Shri Janardhan Reddy**: Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to appoint a panel of Experts in each State to investigate into cases of alleged complications on account of B.C.G. vaccination;

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

(c) the function of the panel?

The Deputy Minister of Health (**Shrimati Chandrasekhar**): (a) to (c). No. However, Directors of Public Health of all the States have been advised by the Director General of Health Services to constitute a panel of doctors to investigate into any complications after the B.C.G. vaccination that may be brought to their notice or published in the press. The following States have uptill now constituted a panel of experts for this purpose:—

- (1) Jammu and Kashmir.
- (2) Kutch.
- (3) Hyderabad.
- (4) PEPSU
- (5) Rajasthan.
- (6) Delhi.

Stoppage of Booking

1341. **Shri K. P. Tripathi**: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Assistant Traffic Inspector, Tezpur informed the Tezpur Chambers of Commerce recently that due to congestion of wagons at Rangia (Assam), booking had to be closed temporarily on Tezpur-Rangia line; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to remove the congestion?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (**Shri Shahnawaz Khan**): (a) Yes.

(b) Additional trains have been introduced to effect clearance of traffic on Rangiya-Tezpur Branch.

Industrial Tribunal Award, Dhanbad

1342. **Dr. Rama Rao**: Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state:

(a) the number of workers qualified to receive the bonus of four months basic wage under the Award given by the Industrial Tribunal, Dhanbad on the 24th, June, 1955;

(b) the number of them received payment so far;

(c) the amount paid so far;

(d) the causes for the delay in implementing this Award; and

(e) the steps being taken by Government for its immediate implementation?

The Minister of Labour (**Shri Khandubhai Desai**): (a) to (c). Collection of these data in respect of the 245 manganese mines involved in the dispute would entail labour and time incommensurate with the results. Further, the award itself is under appeal and the case is pending with the Labour Appellate Tribunal.

(d) and (e). Does not arise, as the award has been stayed by the Labour Appellate Tribunal.

Indian Red Cross Society

1343. **Shri Radha Raman**: Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Indian Red Cross Society has made an appeal to the League of Red Cross Societies at Geneva for International Relief?

The Deputy Minister of Health (**Shrimati Chandrasekhar**): Yes, A statement showing the medical supplies and cash donations received/expected from national Red Cross Societies in response to the appeal is placed on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix XII, annexure No. 25].

**Central Telegraph Office,
New Delhi**

1344. Dr. Satyawadi: Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) the average number of Express Letters received daily and delivered by the Central Telegraph Office, New Delhi;

(b) the average number of ordinary and express telegrams received daily and delivered by this office;

(c) whether it is a fact that no extra staff has been appointed to deliver the express letters and the efficiency of the telegraph service is affected thereby; and

(d) if so, the steps Government propose to take in the matter ?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) 2,240 on week days and 3,470 on Sundays.

(b) 3,037 on week days and 400 on Sundays.

(c) Extra staff for the delivery of express letters is employed, but at the ratio of one messenger for 40 express delivery letters as against 1 to 20 in case of telegrams. This disparity in standard is adversely affecting the delivery of telegrams.

(d) The matter is under consideration.

Shastri Award

1345. Shri Telkikar: Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any of the conditions laid down by Shastri Award on the Industrial Dispute between certain Banking Companies and their workmen, for up-grading of cities to Class I area, could be relaxed; and

(b) if so, in what circumstances ?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Khandubhai Desai): (a) Certain cities have been specified by the Sastri Tribunal as comprising Class I Area. The Tribunal has not given any directions regarding the up-grading of other cities to Class I Area.

(b) Does not arise.

रेलवे स्टेशन

१३४६. श्री एम० एन० सिंह : क्या रेलवे मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) पूर्वोत्तर रेलवे (ओ०टी० सेक्शन) के किन स्टेशनों पर पार्सल भेजने से प्रतिदिन सौ रुपया अधिक उससे अधिक आय होती है;

(ख) ऐसे सब स्टेशनों पर भ्रान्तवाली धौर भेजी जाने वाली पार्सलों की दैनिक प्रीसत संख्या क्या है;

(ग) किन किन स्टेशनों के इयूटी रोस्टर इंटरमिटेंट समझे जाते हैं और किन किन के लगातार समझे जाते हैं; और

(घ) इस वर्गीकरण का आधार क्या है ?

रेलवे तथा परिवहन मंत्री के समासधिव (श्री शाहनवाज खाँ) : (क) से (घ). सूचना मंगायी जा रही है और जितनी जल्दी हो सकेगा सभा-पटल पर रख दी जायेगी ।

Mail Vans

1347. Thakur Jugal Kishore Sinha: Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the existing capacity of the Mail vans is sufficient to cope with the volume of work of the R.M.S. ; and

(b) if not, the steps being taken to remodel the Mail vans to suit the requirements ?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Not quite adequate. There are shortages in certain types of Mail vans.

(b) The position of Mail vans on all Railways has been reviewed and steps are being taken for the construction of additional Mail vans to meet all requirements.

Antecedent Reports

1348. Thakur Jugal Kishore Sinha: Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state the maximum time taken by police for submission of reports about verification of character and antecedents of persons recruited in the Postal Department of Delhi ?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): 3 to 4 months normally.

Complaints

1349. Thakur Jugal Kishore Sinha: Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state the action taken on the memorandum submitted recently by the North Bihar Merchants Association with regard to the grievances experienced by the travelling and trading public of North Bihar ?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): The memorandum under reference has been received only recently. The various grievances of the travelling and trading public of North Bihar, as referred to in the aforesaid memorandum, have been examined and the steps taken are detailed in the attached statement. [See Appendix XII, annexure No. 26].

New Railway Line

1350. Shri Thanu Pillai : Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether any representations have been received from the Chamber of Commerce, Tuticorin for the construction of a railway line from Manamadura to Tuticorin;

(b) if so, whether the scheme has been examined; and

(c) whether it will be included in the Second Five Year Plan?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The proposal has been noted for consideration while selecting new lines for construction during the Second Five Year Plan Period.

(c) It is too early to say.

Manapad Bridge

1351. Shri Thanu Pillai : Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) the progress of work in the Manapad Bridge in Tirunelveli District;

(b) whether any representations have been made by Bridge Committee Manapad; and

(c) if so, the action taken thereon?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) The Government of India have no information regarding the progress of work on the Manapad bridge as they are not responsible for its construction.

(b) Yes.

(c) The representation was forwarded to the Madras Government for necessary action.

Centrally aided Roads

1352. Shri M Islamuddin : Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the roads that are being constructed or proposed to be constructed in Bihar during 1955-56; with the aid of the Central Government;

(b) the amount sanctioned for the purpose; and

(c) whether Government propose to take up the construction and improvement of the roads on the Indo-Pakistan border area of the State particularly to prevent and facilitate the checking of smuggling of goods on the border areas?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) A statement giving the required information is attached. [See Appendix XII, annexure No. 27].

(b) A total grant of Rs. 1,29,80,423/- has been approved for these schemes.

(c) The Government of India have no such proposal under consideration.

Recruitment

1353. Shri Mohiuddin : Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applicants who appeared for interview before the Railway Service Commission, Allahabad, for employment in 1953-54 and 1954-55;

(b) the number of persons selected; and

(c) the number amongst them belonging to Scheduled Castes and Tribes?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan):

	*1953-54	1954-55
(a)	2,318	12,594
(b)	1,587	6,226
(c) Scheduled Castes	48	256
Scheduled Tribes	5	6

*The Allahabad Commission was set up in December, 1953 and these figures are from December, 1953 to March, 1954.

Electric Locomotives

1354. **Shri M. D. Joshi** : Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of electric locomotives supplied by foreign countries during the period from 1950 to 1955;
- (b) the names of the countries;
- (c) the number of locomotives which have arrived;
- (d) the maximum operating speed of these locomotives;
- (e) on what Railways they have been put for operation; and
- (f) the cost of each locomotive?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan) : (a) Seven.

(b) United Kingdom.

(c) Seven.

(d) Maximum safe operating speed of these locomotives 75 miles per hour but maximum permissible speed in use 65 miles per hour.

(e) Central Railway.

(f) £63865 F.O.B. European Port.

Postal Life Insurance Policies

1355. **Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani**: Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a proposal to increase the premium rates on the Postal Life Insurance Policies; and

(b) if so, when a decision is likely to be taken in the matter?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur) : (a) No such proposal is under consideration at present.

(b) Does not arise.

Postal Life Insurance Policies

1356. **Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani** : Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that about 300 cases regarding payment of matured Postal Life Insurance policies are lying undisposed of in the office of the Director, Postal Life Insurance, Calcutta; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur) : (a) Yes.

(b) The cases are under correspondence with disbursing officers, Accounts Officers, insurers and certain Administrative Offices. All possible action is being taken to expedite their disposal and a large number of them is expected to be disposed of very shortly.

Postal Life Insurance Policies

1357. **Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani** : Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that bonus on the Postal Life Insurance policies for the period 1947-52 has not been declared so far ; and

(b) if so, the steps Government propose to take in the matter?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur) : (a) Yes.

(b) Necessary action has already been taken to expedite the matter.

Opening of a New Station

1358. **Shri Lakshmayya** : Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether any representation has been received from the Public of Anantapur for the opening of a flag-staff station between Anantapur and Zangalapalli; and

(b) the expenditure involved in the opening of a flag staff station?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan) : (a) Yes.

(b) The estimated expenditure is :—
 Capital cost Ra. 48,000
 Recurring expenditure Ra. 12,600
 per annum.

Opening of a New Station

1359. **Shri Lakshmayya** : Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that representations have been received by Government for the opening of a new station between Gulapalayamu and Khadarpett Stations on the Guntakal-Bangalore line on the Southern Railway; and

(b) if so, the decision taken there on; and

(c) the factors to be taken into account for the opening of a new station?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shah nawaz Khan): (a) Yes.

(b) The proposal was not accepted as it was not found justified, either on commercial considerations or on grounds of volume of passenger traffic. But, it is being re-examined.

(c) Ordinarily, new stations are opened only when financially justified. Besides on non-suburban sections there should not normally be a station within 3 miles of the site. In exceptional cases new stations are also opened as a passenger amenity, even though not financially justified when an appreciable number of passengers are expected to be served thereby.

Ticketless Travelling

1360. Thakur Jugal Kishore Sinha: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that police officers and constables usually travel on Railways either without tickets or in a higher compartment with a ticket of the lower class; and

(b) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken in the matter?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shah nawaz Khan): (a) Yes, there are some cases of this type.

(b) The police staff detected travelling without tickets or with improper tickets are excess charged, and besides, the matter is reported to the police authorities concerned for departmental action.

Out-Agency Services

1361. Thakur Jugal Kishore Sinha : Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that the out-station agencies give preference for accommodation in rail-cum-bus services to Railway ticket holders and pass-holders including Members of Parliament are allowed accommodation when there is any vacancy left after providing the accommodation to all ticket holders; and

(b) whether Government propose to take any step to see that no discrimination is made between the pass-holders who are prepared to purchase bus tickets and those holding through railway tickets?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shah nawaz Khan): (a) While no specific complaints have been received regarding preference being shown to rail-cum road ticket holders as against pass holders, it is not improbable that in actual practice the former are given preference in the matter of accommodation, when the same is limited, as it is the contractual obligation of the out-agency to provide accommodation, over the road portion to through passengers.

The practice, however, may vary with different out agencies.

(b) In view of the primary responsibility of the out-agents to clear rail-cum-road traffic, Government do not propose to disturb the existing practice.

Post Office Savings Bank Account

1362. Thakur Jugal Kishore Sinha : Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state the duration for which the operation of the Savings Bank Accounts of Siramarhi Centre Co-operative Union has been suspended?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): It was suspended in April last when a dispute as to the right to operate the account arose between the old executive of the Union and the new Board of Directors.

Telephone Exchange for Rayadrug Town

1363. Shri Lakshmayya : Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state :

(a) the number of towns in Andhra State whose telephones have been installed since January, 1955;

(b) whether the Government have considered the representations received from the public of Rayadrug town in Anantapur District for providing telephone facilities there; and

(c) if so, when telephone connections will be provided there?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Provided with Public Call Offices 15

Provided with Telephone Exchanges 8

(b) Yes.

(c) The scheme for a Public Call Office has already been sanctioned. The work will be completed on receipt of stores.

विदेशी पार्सल

१३६४. श्री एम० एल० द्विवेदी : क्या संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) डाकघरों के विदेशी पार्सल उप-विभाग से पार्सलों के वितरण में सामान्यतया कितना समय लगता है जो विदेशों से आते हैं;

(ख) ३१ अगस्त, १९५५ तक कुल कितने विदेशी पार्सल आये और जो १ सप्ताह, २ सप्ताह, ३ सप्ताह, १ मास और उस से अधिक कालावधि तक अवितरित पड़े रहे;

(ग) क्या कारण है कि वे पार्सल उक्त कालावधि तक अवितरित पड़े रहे;

(घ) क्या सरकार को मालूम है कि बहुत समय तक पार्सलों के वितरित न होने से जिनके नाम पार्सल आते हैं उनको असुविधा होती है; और

(ङ) यदि हां, तो उन्हें शीघ्र वितरित करने के लिये सरकार ने क्या कार्यवाही की है, या करने का विचार रखती है ?

संचार उपमंत्री (श्री राज बहादुर):

(क) साधारण समय २ दिन से ४५ दिन तक का है; यह समय सीमाकर व आयात-नियंत्रण (customs and import control) अधिकारियों द्वारा मांगे हुए आवश्यक प्रलेखों (documents) के शीघ्रता से प्रस्तुत करने पर निर्भर है ।

(ख) १-१-५५ से ३१-८-५५ तक प्राप्त हुए तथा अवितरित पड़े रहे पार्सलों की संख्या १२०२६ है । जितने समय के लिये वे अवितरित पड़े रहते हैं, उस की कालावधि हम प्रकार है —

एक सप्ताह	१२७६
दो सप्ताह	२०५३
तीन सप्ताह	१७६०
चार सप्ताह व उस से अधिक	६६१०

(ग) इस का मुख्य कारण यही है कि कुछ ऐड्रेसी आवश्यक प्रलेखों के दिखाने में शीघ्रता नहीं करते ।

(घ) जी हां, परन्तु जैसा कि कई मामलों में बतलाया जा चुका है देर पार्सल पाने वागों के निजी कारण से ही होती है ।

(ङ) यह प्रश्न सदा ही विचाराधीन रहता है, परन्तु जब तक एड्रेसी सीमा-कर व आयात-नियंत्रण अधिकारियों की आवश्यकताओं को तुरन्त पूरा न करें तब तक कोई सुधार सम्भव नहीं है ।

नेपाली विमान चालक

१३६५. श्री एम० एल० द्विवेदी : क्या संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) नेपाली विमान चालकों के प्रशिक्षण के लिये भारत के किन स्थानों में प्रबन्ध किया जा रहा है;

(ख) कितने व्यक्तियों को प्रशिक्षण दिया जायेगा ;

(ग) प्रत्येक प्रशिक्षार्थी पर कितना व्यय किया जायेगा; और

(घ) प्रशिक्षण का व्यय कौन उठायेगा ?

संचार उपमंत्री (श्री राज बहादुर):

(क) नागरिक उड्डयन प्रशिक्षण केन्द्र (Civil Aviation Training Centre) इलाहाबाद ।

(ख) केन्द्र में, कोलम्बो योजना के अन्तर्गत तीन नेपाली उम्मीदवार फरवरी १९५४ में विमान चालक का प्रशिक्षण (Training) प्राप्त कर रहे हैं । १९५५-५६ और १९५६-५७ में तीन और विमान चालकों की प्रशिक्षण दिये जाने की संभावना है ।

(ग) लगभग ३८,६०० रुपया प्रति प्रशिक्षार्थी (Trainee) .

(ब) प्रशिक्षण का सारा खर्च, कोलम्बो योजना (Colombo Plan) की प्रौद्योगिक सहकारी योजना (Technical Co-operative Scheme) के लिये भारत के अनुदाय (Contribution) में से, भारत सरकार द्वारा उठाया जायगा।

Matapan Line Camp, New Delhi

1366. Chaudhri Muhammed Shafie: Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state,

(a) whether it is a fact that no amenity has been given to the P. & T. employees of Matapan line camp New Delhi;

(b) the number of representations received in this regard and the action taken by Government thereon; and

(c) the rent per barrack since 1947 and the amount spent on repairs so far?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Some amenities have been provided but they are on a scale of camp accommodation and not on the basis of permanent accommodation.

(b) A number of representations have been received but it has not been possible to comply with these requests as the accommodation is temporary and the Government propose to get it vacated as soon as suitable permanent accommodation becomes available.

(c) From August 1948 to 31-12-1949 no rent was recovered from the occupants. From 1-4-50 to 31-12-1953 rent was recovered at the rate of 5 per cent. of the pay of the occupants or the assessed rent of the quarter whichever was less. From 1-1-54 to 31-8-55 the rent has been recovered at the rate of 2 per cent of the pay of the occupants or the assessed rent which ever is less.

Separate account has not been kept for each unit. The total rent recovered upto 31-8-55 amounts to Rs. 30,800/- and the amount spent on repairs during the period is Rs. 46,182/14/3.

Merger of Dearness Allowance with Pay

1367. Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railway Board have since arrived at a decision regarding revision of the rules to meet

the grievances arising out of the merger of half of the dearness allowance with pay for staff drawing Rs. 76/- per month and above;

(b) if so, the nature of the decision and

(c) from what date it will be given effect to?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) No.

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

Floods in Andhra

1368. Shri B. S. Murthy: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Andhra State have asked for food-grains for distribution in the flood-affected areas in Andhra in the months of August and September 1955; and

(b) if so, the extent of help rendered?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh) (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Ex-servicemen

1369. Shri Radha Raman: Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some ex-servicemen employed as technical staff in various technical and vocational centres have not been given war benefit;

(b) if so, why;

(c) whether it is a fact that some member of technical staff, who have been given war benefit, are not getting their yearly increments; and

(d) if so, why?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Khandubhai Desai): (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

Friday,
30th September, 1955

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(Part II—Proceedings other than Questions and Answers)



LOK SABHA SECRETARIA.
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SIX ANNAS (INLAND)

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LOK SABHA DEBATES

(Part II—Proceedings other than Questions and Answers)

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LOK SABHA

Friday, 30th September, 1955

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

(See Part I)

12-23 P.M.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

REPORT OF TARIFF COMMISSION ON CONTINUANCE OF PROTECTION TO SODIUM THIOSULPHATE, SODIUM SULPHITE AND SODIUM BISULPHITE INDUSTRIES AND GOVERNMENT RESOLUTION ETC. THEREON.

The Minister of Commerce and Industry and Iron and Steel (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of each of the following papers, under sub-section (2) of section 16 of the Tariff Commission Act, 1951:

(1) Report (1955) of the Tariff Commission on the continuance of protection to the Sodium Thio-sulphate, Sodium Sulphite and Sodium Bisulphite Industries.

(2) Ministry of Commerce and Industry Resolution No. 8(3)TB/55, dated the 24th September, 1955.

(3) Ministry of Commerce and Industry Notification No. 8(3)TB/55, dated the 24th September, 1955.

(4) Statement under proviso to section 16(2) of the Tariff Commission Act, 1951, explaining the reasons why the documents referred to at (1) to (3) above could not be laid within the prescribed period [Placed in Library. See No. S—354/55.]

STATEMENT SHOWING ACTION TAKEN BY GOVERNMENT ON ASSURANCES, ETC.

The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Satya Narayan Sinha): I beg to lay on the Table the following statements showing the action taken by the Government on various assurances, promises and undertakings given by Ministers during the various Sessions shown against each:

(1) Supplementary Statement No. 1.—Tenth Session, 1955 of Lok Sabha. [See Appendix XII, annexure No. 1.]

(2) Supplementary Statement No. VII.—Ninth Session, 1955 of Lok Sabha. [See Appendix XII, annexure No. 2.]

(3) Supplementary Statement No. XI.—Eighth Session, 1954 of Lok Sabha. [See Appendix XII, annexure No. 3.]

(4) Supplementary Statement No. XV.—Seventh Session, 1954 of Lok Sabha. [See Appendix XII, annexure No. 4.]

(5) Supplementary Statement No. XXI.—Sixth Session, 1954 of Lok Sabha. [See Appendix XII, annexure No. 5.]

(6) Supplementary Statement No. XXVI.—Fifth Session, 1953 of Lok Sabha. [See Appendix XII, annexure No. 6.]

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[Shri Satya Narayan Sinha]

(7) Supplementary Statement No. XXXI.—Fourth Session, 1953 Lok Sabha. [See Appendix XII, annexure No. 7.]

(8) Supplementary Statement No. XXXVI.—Third Session, 1953 of Lok Sabha. [See Appendix XII, annexure No. 8.]

(9) Supplementary Statement No. XXXIV.—Second Session, 1952 of Lok Sabha. [See Appendix XII, annexure No. 9.]

(10) Supplementary Statement No. XXXII.—First Session, 1952 of Lok Sabha. [See Appendix XII, annexure No. 10.]

either House disapproves of the issue of the notification or approves of such issue only with modifications, the notification shall not be issued or, as the case may require, shall be issued only with such modifications as may be agreed on by both the Houses."

I am, therefore, to return herewith the said Bill in accordance with the provisions of rule 126 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha with the request that the concurrence of the Lok Sabha to the said amendments be communicated to this House.'

MESSAGE FROM RAJYA SABHA

Secretary: Sir, I have to report the following message received from the Secretary of Rajya Sabha:

I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Companies Bill, 1955, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 12th September, 1955, has been passed by the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 28th September, 1955, with the following amendments:

Clause 199

1. That at page 100, line 23, for the words "two years" the words "one year" be substituted.

Clause 324

2. That at page 170, for lines 24 to 26, the following be substituted, namely:

"(3) Copies of all rules prescribed under sub-section (1) shall, as soon as may be after they have been prescribed, be laid before both Houses of Parliament.

(4) A copy of every notification proposed to be issued under sub-section (1) shall be laid in draft before both Houses of Parliament for a period of not less than thirty days while they are in session; and if, within that period,

COMPANIES BILL

Secretary: Sir, I lay on the Table of the House, the Companies Bill, 1955, which has been returned by Rajya Sabha with amendments.

PREVENTION OF CORRUPTION (AMENDMENT) BILL

Shri U. C. Patnaik (Ghumsur): I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of papers Nos. I, II and III containing opinions on the Prevention of Corruption (Amendment) Bill, 1955, which was circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinion thereon by the 31st July, 1955.

COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS

SIXTH REPORT

Shri Raghuramaiah (Tenali): I beg to present the Sixth Report of the Committee on Petitions.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

CASUALTIES INFLICTED BY INDIAN SOLDIERS ON HOSTILE TRIBESMEN IN N.E.F.A.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Shri Raghunath Singh has given notice calling

attention to a matter of urgent public importance in these terms:

Under rule 215, I beg to call the attention of the Prime Minister to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon:

"Whether it is a fact that 14 hostile tribesmen who belonged to terrorist party of N.E.F.A. were killed and several were wounded on 15-9-1955 by Indian soldiers near Lhoshyepu and Khokiye in south-east corner of Tuensang Frontier Division."

Shri Raghunath Singh is not here at the moment, but the hon. Prime Minister wishes to make a statement on this.

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): I am called upon to make a statement under rule 216. The hon. Member concerned is not here, but I should like nevertheless to make a statement for the information of the House. This is in regard to certain developments in the North East Frontier Agency.

On the 18th August I made a statement in the Lok Sabha in regard to the situation in the Tuensang Frontier Division. In this I had stated that a battalion of the Army had been sent to the Southern sector of the Tuensang Division to deal with some organised armed gangs which had concentrated in one or two fortified villages in the south of the Tuensang Frontier Division, adjoining the Naga Hills District. These gangs possessed fire-arms, including automatic weapons.

The troops sent there cooperated fully with the Assam Rifles platoons as well as with two or three platoons of the Assam State Armed Police which were put under the overall command of the Army Force Commander. They found that the organised armed gangs had concentrated in fortified positions in the villages of

Leshyepu and Kheikiye. Both these positions were reached on the 10th September last. As a result of the military action that took place then, it is estimated that forty hostile tribesmen were killed and about thirty were injured. Our casualties were two killed and one injured.

It is understood that the ringleaders of the hostiles came from the Naga Hills District of Assam.

Reports have been received that hostile bases have been set up in some other parts of the Tuensang Frontier Division. This matter is under investigation and it is possible that the Army troops will be retained in the Division to undertake one or more additional specified tasks. Co-ordinated action is being taken by the Assam State Administration and the NEFA Administration to bring the affected areas under full control. The necessity to retain troops in these areas will be judged from time to time.

I might add that recently yesterday or the day before we received further information—that has appeared already in the Press—which indicates that a large number of people in those areas have themselves got rather tired of being harassed by these hostile elements and have themselves taken action against them. For instance, a few days ago in certain villages around Noklak, people from 15 villages themselves attacked the hostiles, as a result of which about 14 of the hostile tribesmen were killed.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

Shri N. M. Lingam (Coimbatore): On a point of submission, the question relating to the visit of the Commerce Minister to Dalmianagar involves a question of honour of the two Ministers. I, therefore, feel that the hon. Prime Minister would be pleased to repudiate categorically any nexus, implied, suspected or apprehended between the Ministers on the one hand and Shri Ram Kishna Dalmia on the other.

Bill

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It is unnecessary and nothing is involved. The hon. Prime Minister has already said that there is absolutely no foundation for that, and the question ought not be interpreted to mean any such thing.

Shri Kamath (Hoshangabad): On a point of information, may I ask whether Government has had the hardihood to disregard the peremptory but sound advice given by the hon. Speaker on the 5th of this month regarding the amendment of the Constitutional provision in respect of quorum? I am reading from the official transcript.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Order, order. If any Member wants to make any suggestion or motion, he will kindly intimate to the Speaker. He need not go to the Speaker's room. I will bring it here tomorrow, if I find there is something to be brought up before the House. The proceedings of the House ought not to be interrupted. Many things have to be done by the hon. Members, by the Government and by all of us concerned. This is not a matter which can be brought up before the House. Let him write to me. I will consider if it could be allowed to be brought before the House in the form of a motion.

INDIAN TARIFF (SECOND AMENDMENT) BILL.

The Minister of Commerce and Industry and Iron and Steel (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Indian Tariff Act, 1934.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Indian Tariff Act, 1934."

The motion was adopted.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I introduce* the Bill.

RIVER BOARDS BILL

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The House will now resume further discussion on the motion for concurrence in the motion of Rajya Sabha for reference of the River Boards Bill to a Joint Committee.

Originally three hours had been allotted for this motion. Half an hour was deducted yesterday towards the discussion on the point of order raised yesterday. Out of the 2½ hours, 1 hour and 20 minutes were availed of yesterday. This would mean that the discussion on the motion will conclude by about 1-40 P.M. today, that is, after 1 hour and 10 minutes from now, when the motion regarding economic policy will be taken up for which 10 hours have been allotted.

The Private Members' Business will be taken up at 4-30 P.M. As already decided, the House will sit up to 7 P.M. today.

The House will now proceed with the further consideration of the motion moved by Shri Gulzarilal Nanda on the 29th September, 1955.

Shri Sinhasan Singh (Gorakhpur Dist.—South): The Bill under discussion appears to be a Bill which is more or less persuasive than directive. This Bill depends more or less on the will of the provincial Government to join in this measure. I find that the two Bills read together are of the same nature and to some extent try to solve the problem of inter-State disputes and river valley projects. But I find a great difference here. In clause 11 of the Inter-State Water Disputes Bill, I find there is no appeal to the Supreme Court or any other court. A similar provision is not made in the River Boards Bill. Here also, if a dispute is decided after arbitration, similar powers should be given. Otherwise, there will be a loophole left for a State to go to some court. Here also in clause 22 (4) it is said that the decision of the arbitrator, shall be final. So far

*Introduced with the recommendation of the President.

as the election disputes are concerned also, the decision of the election tribunal is final so far as that Act is concerned but still appeals go to the High Court and then to Supreme Court. In one Bill—the Inter-State Water Disputes Bill, there is a provision that no decision arrived at by the arbitrator will be taken to the Supreme Court. Similar provision should have been made in the River Boards Bill also that any decision arrived at by the arbitrator should not be taken to any court because if that provision is not made here I fear that the decision of the arbitrator can be taken to the Supreme Court or High Court on appeal.

I find that the whole thing depends upon the will of the provincial Governments. You cannot appoint a Board unless the provincial Government requests for one. It will be subject to a notification and the notification also will be subject to their approval. The proviso reads:

“Provided that no such notification shall be issued except in consultation with the Governments interested with respect to the proposal to establish the Board the persons to be appointed as members thereof and the functions which the Board may be empowered to perform.”

In sub-clause (1) you say that the Central Government may on a request received in this behalf from a State Government or otherwise, by notification establish a River Board. But this latter provision takes away the force of ‘otherwise’ because it could not be done unless you again consult the provincial Governments. The difficulties will remain if the provision is retained as it is. I submit that this Bill as it is only a Bill requesting the provincial Governments to co-ordinate or co-operate in the attempt of the Central Government to go ahead with river valley projects. This Bill, in my opinion, should have been an all round Bill as the Constitution provides because

it deals with water power and irrigation. You could have taken resolutions from States for enacting a Central Act and brought a Bill covering all the States instead of leaving the implementation of this to the approval of the States.

Yesterday, an hon. Member said that instead of having several Board, distinctive Boards according to the rivers, we could have zonal Boards. For instance, India can very well be separated into 3-4 zones according to the river systems—Brahmaputra system which covers Assam and Bengal, Gangetic system which covers U.P., Bihar and Bengal, the Sind system which covers Punjab and a part of Rajasthan, if I may say so, the fourth system—the Deccan system—covering Tapti and other rivers. Then these Boards can very well have a definite scheme of development of the river projects. Of course we do not know what will be the divisions of the States henceforward. In my opinion, the Central Government should establish Boards according to the zonal systems of the rivers. We have the zonal system of railways. The development of the rivers also may be on a zonal basis and need not be left to the States but should be taken up by the Central Government. Otherwise, in my opinion, they may not properly be implemented. This Act may remain a dead letter like so many Acts that we have passed and not implemented. Ultimately most of the money is to come from the Government—the Central Government. If the Government has any intention to go forward then they should modify the Bill in such a form so that it may be compulsory applied; it need not be left to the sweet will of the States concerned. What I find is that this Board is going to be only a consultative advisory body. It can give advice which may or may not be accepted. The Board must be given some legal powers to enforce the decision. That is not done here.

In both these Bills—the Inter-State Water Disputes Bill and the River

[Shri Sinhasan Singh]

Boards Bill—I find there is a provision for having assessors. A Judge of Supreme Court or of a High Court will be appointed as arbitrator but he will be aided by assessors appointed on the recommendation of the Central Government. We have already had experience of assessors in criminal cases. The provision relating to assessors has now been amended. Why should we have them here? I do not find from the Bill what powers they have. They will be sitting along with arbitrators and say yes or no. We have already come to the conclusion that an assessor is no good because the advice is not acted upon and is not taken into consideration. It may or may not be taken into consideration. This clause providing for assessors should not find a place. When a Judge is deciding why should be burdened with two or three assessors sitting by his side. It reads here:

“The arbitrator may on the recommendation of the Central Government, appoint one or more persons as assessors to assist him in the proceeding before him.”

What assistance there will be? The arbitrator is getting all powers of a civil court. He can summon the witnesses he likes. My opinion is that this is a redundant provision and will result in unnecessary expenditure.

Then I find that the provision with regard to the appointment of arbitrator is that the Chief Justice of India may appoint an arbitrator from among the Judges of retired—Judges of the Supreme Court and the Judges of a High Court. The provision reads like this:

“The arbitrator shall be a person to be appointed in this behalf by the Chief Justice of India from among persons who are, or have been, Judges of the Supreme Court or are Judges of a High Court.”

That means even be retired Judges of the Supreme Court are eligible to

be appointed as arbitrator whereas the retired Judges of a High Court are not eligible. Sir, I have been holding a long view that this Government is not doing justice to the country by appointing retired persons in service. Here also I say that no retired persons should be put on the job when we have got acting Judges to decide cases. This will be a temporary job and our Judges can be spared for deciding these cases. When you are not having retired High Court Judges I think this clause regarding the appointment of retired Judges of the Supreme Court should also be removed.

We are finding everywhere some talk going on, among the officers even, that retired persons are getting extension and they are being reposted on special duty with the result that junior officers who could have had a chance of coming up are being held up. I am glad that in this Bill, so far as High Court Judges are concerned, you are not providing for the appointment of retired High Court Judges. But, you are allowing retired Judges of the Supreme Court to be appointed as arbitrators. In my opinion this provision should also be removed and this must be the one Bill passed by the supreme body of the Parliament of India in which no retired person will be getting a palce and this will go a long way towards solving our other problems also.

With these remarks I only would like to express my fear that this Bill may not be so much useful as it would have been, had there been an all round Bill providing for the appointment of Boards by the Central Government on zonal basis and asking the State Governments to join and cooperate with it by acting according to the decisions of the Board so far as the projects are concerned because I find that most of the money is given by the Central Government.

With these words I express the hope that the Select Committee will go into it and try to amend the Bill so that

when the Bill comes back from the Select Committee we will find it much improved and this clause 4 about the appointment of the Board being left at the mercy of the States may be removed.

Sir, I support the Bill.

Shri Basappa (Tumkur): I welcome this Bill and the motion for its being sent to the Select Committee. While doing so I should like to lay emphasis on the objects of this Bill, namely, that it is meant for regulation and development of inter-State rivers and river valleys. Of course, the necessity for developing these inter-State rivers for the use of the country is felt everywhere and it is also a fact that there are a number of disputes with regard to these inter-State rivers. These disputes, as our hon. Minister has already pointed out, are existing from a very long time; in some cases 20 years, 30 years. Therefore, these disputes should be settled once for all so that the different parts of the country may develop to its fullest extent possible. How to resolve these disputes is the next question that will certainly come before our minds. Naturally, therefore, the Central Government will have to look into the matter and will have to appoint a Board. Whenever there are disputes between the various States the Central Government will have to come forward and appoint these Boards. The scope and powers of these Boards are enunciated in this Bill and the Select Committee will look into all those powers and also the purpose for which this Board is going to be constituted.

This Board will have enormous work to do and if still its advice is not taken up by the various States then ultimately the matter will have to be referred to arbitration. Of course, I wish that the States will follow the advice given by this Board and will act up to it; but, still there may arise some cases when it will not be possible for them to do so in which case the question of arbitration will come and we are told in this Bill that the

Chief Justice will appoint an arbitrator and his decision will be final. These are the contents of the Bill and if there are any defects in the Bill they will be looked into by the Select Committee.

While I welcome the Bill in this way I cannot refrain myself from saying a few words because certain Members in this House have commented upon the actions of the State Governments. I wish that the Members of this House would refrain from doing so because it will create certain misunderstandings or misgivings. Therefore, I stand in this House today to say that those statements are not correct. If I do not say that then the impression left will be that certain governments are not co-operating with other governments which is very bad indeed. My friend Shri Raghavachari and some others who spoke yesterday referred to Mysore Government and said that it was not co-operating with certain other governments, in this matter. It pained me very much to hear these words from an elderly gentleman like Shri Raghavachari. I wish another Member belonging to his party Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy himself, would refute the arguments of Shri Raghavachari in this respect. He said, there are rivers like Jaimangali and Pennar the waters of which are taken by Mysore itself and not allowed to run into other States at all. That is a wrong statement, a wild allegation which has not been proved at all. I wish he would have given instances to show how the agreements, which have been entered into, have been violated in this respect.

Then there is this very big question of Tungabhadra. I hope the States Reorganisation Commission, which is going to submit its report shortly, will also write something about Tungabhadra; how water should be made use of and all that. Again, in this connection—you know, Sir, and I need not bring to your notice, how Tungabhadra water is being used, how that can be made better use of and all these things—arguments were

[Shri Basappa]

advanced that the Mysore Government is not co-operating with other governments. I say that all those statements are wrong; because, there is the Tungabhadra Board of which Mr. Gokhale is the Chairman, and the Chairman himself has stated that he has been getting co-operation from all governments so far as the development of Tungabhadra waters are concerned. With regard to the various problems connected with this we have to look into the various aspects of the question. First of all there is the agreement of 1944 wherein it is stated how the waters will have to be used and all our actions should be based on that agreement. Supposing there is surplus water then the governments concerned—the Hyderabad Government, the Madras Government and the Mysore Government—will have to come to certain arrangements with regard to the surplus water, enter into certain agreements and those agreements should be acted upon.

When all these things are there, it should be considered, when a dam is put up across a river, whether the nearby surrounding areas should be irrigated first or the water should be taken to several miles away without even feeding the nearby areas. What is the purpose for which Tungabhadra project was constructed? What is the scope of it? These things must be gone into carefully and if there are backward areas surrounding that they must be irrigated first. After that, if there is surplus water let it be taken to distant places, I have no objection at all. I have no objection if water is being taken to distant places after satisfying the needs of the nearby backward areas.

Again, my friend Shri Lakshmayya said about high level canals of Thungabhadra River. When low level canal water is not completely utilised properly as decided by the Tungabhadra Board, where is the question of going into high level canals? Let us see first of all whether the waters of the Low level canal are used properly or not.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: So far as this Bill's concerned, it is a Bill for the purpose of settling disputes and for the formation of river boards which will settle all differences and give advice from time to time. That is the main purpose of the Bill. In individual cases, the question whether there has been fair-play by one side or the other is not a matter here before us.

Shri Basappa: How the dispute will have to be settled by the board, what are the principles that should guide the board to decide these disputes, the nature of the disputes—these are the points which I wanted to bring forward in a few words.

So far as the high-level canal is concerned, the Mysore Government has never said that it will not co-operate with the other Government. Only, it wants a proper discussion of the subject so that its views also may be placed before the proper authorities. That is all with regard to the high-level canal. I need not say much on that aspect.

Now, there were other charges also made against us. If charges are made, and if I do not answer them or if I do not explain the proper view of the Mysore State, then an impression will be left in the minds of the Members and that impression will harm the State from which I come.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: If some charges have crept in which are not germane to the issue, they may be ignored. It is not as if the Mysore Government is going to be affected by them.

Shri Basappa: There are many inter-State rivers with which the various Governments are concerned. But since you say that I need not dilate on those charges regarding these points, I shall close those points. I only say that regarding inter-State rivers, there are many disputes, and those disputes will have to be solved amicably, and the boards that are going to be constituted will look into all the matters including the scope of the agreement entered into prior to the formation of the boards, and how far they can be

given full effect to. While deciding these matters, the boards will have to consider the area submerged and the number of acres of land that have been submerged and also the number of people who have suffered. It should not be that all losses should accrue to one State and all gains accrue to another State. I therefore say that the area surrounding the dam and the area and the people that suffer on account of the construction of the dam should be taken into consideration in deciding any of these questions. I hope the Joint Committee will go into all these matters and decide them properly.

Shri Raghavachari (Penukonda): I request your permission to reply to the allegations made by my hon. friend—the allegations which he was pleased to hurl against me.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I will allow him to make his personal explanation later on.

Shri Achuthan (Crangannur): I heartily welcome this measure as well as the Inter-State Water Disputes Bill. I have one doubt only. For the second Five Year Plan, all the States have prepared their plans and have discussed them with the Planning Commission. They are going to be finalised. How can the plans to be formulated by the river boards fit in with this? That is my difficulty. I cannot understand how the measures to be formulated by the river boards under this Bill can be implemented and how they will fit in with the plans prepared by the State according to their own whims and fancies and according to their own resources. The States have prepared their own plans with their own resources and facilities. How those plans will fit in with the schemes that may be envisaged by the river boards is the doubt that has arisen in my mind.

I think this is a great measure. In fact, considering the topographical and physical features of this vast country of ours, this Bill is quite welcome,

especially when many rivers are passing through many States including my State. So, a central body or a common body, irrespective of considerations of one particular State or other, should go through the question dispassionately and assess the financial resources and facilities and then bring forward a plan which will, so to say, bind both parties together as well as the Central Government. Unless this is done, progress with regard to the irrigation, power and industrial projects will not take place very soon. In that light, this measure is really welcome.

Now, I doubt whether this advisory capacity of the boards will be sufficient. According to me, if there is a river flowing through different States, and if it is to be harnessed to the best advantage, then, work must be done only by a central body. Take, for instance, X and Y States. I shall not mention names. X will have its own plans and if it thinks that the water flowing through the State must all be utilised for that State alone, it may think that it has to be done for its own advantage. Similarly, Y also may think that unless the water of that river flowing through that State are harnessed to its own advantage, that river may not be of use. That is the sort of difficulty that will arise and such a dispute has arisen and a reference has been made in regard to the waters of the Tungabhadra.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: There is an Inter-State Water Disputes Bill, and it was sent to the Joint Committee yesterday. Such matters as he has raised now will be referred to the body created under that Bill. The river boards will just give concrete shape as to how they are to be co-ordinated.

Shri Achuthan: There will be occasions for changes to be effected in the plans themselves. Suppose X is prepared to spend Rs. 10 crores according to the river board's scheme, Y may be prepared to spend only Rs. 5 crores, say, for the same scheme. So, that difficulty would arise. Therefore, how

[Shri Achuthan]

are you going to fit in these schemes with the second Five Year Plan of all the States? That is my point. This is a problem which has to be tackled very cautiously and tactfully. Otherwise, the atmosphere would not be calm; blackmailing will be there; heated words will be exchanged. Such difficulties will arise. So, this work must be entrusted not only to competent men but to tactful men. The interests of the country alone must be the aim and no particular State or States should be borne in mind.

Then, in the selection of the judges, care must be taken to see that judges from the particular State concerned are not chosen, as far as possible. Even though there may be some merit in the person chosen from the particular State concerned in the dispute, people may have their own suspicion. So, it is better to see that judges belonging to the States concerned in the dispute are not taken in for the purposes of arbitration. Judges from other State may be taken for this purpose. That is my suggestion. I wholeheartedly welcome the Bill.

Shri Raghavachari rose

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I will come to that afterwards.

Shri Raghavachari: The Member who hurled criticisms against me must be here when I reply. At another moment, he may go out.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He would not go.

Shri Raghavachari: I do not wish to take more than a couple of minutes.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: All right.

Shri Raghavachari: All that I wish to say is, I stand by every word that I have said yesterday, in respect of the other Bill.

Shri Basappa: The House will judge it.

Shri Raghavachari: Please wait. I was sorry to hear my friend say that a responsible man and an elderly man, made those remarks. I say that because I am a responsible man, I have made a responsible statement and every word of it is borne out by facts and records. I only want to submit that Shri Basappa—I am sorry to say—has allowed his emotion to take the place of reason.

Shri S. L. Saksena (Gorakhpur Distt.-North): I welcome this Bill. I shall make a few suggestions. Its title is the River Boards Bill, but in clause 4, is made an Inter-State River Boards Bill. I would like the Bill to be the River Boards Bill throughout, and whether there is a single river passing through one State or one single river passing through many States, the Central Government should have power to constitute a Board for it. There must be a single body with powers to make recommendations. The Central Government should have the power to take the initiative to create such River Boards both for inter-State Rivers and for single State rivers.

Then, in clause 5(2), I would like afforestation to be included in the subjects mentioned the special knowledge of which may qualify a man to be a member of the Board. As it is, you have mentioned only irrigation, electrical engineering, flood control, navigation, etc., but not afforestation. I think afforestation is part of the development of river valleys and so afforestation should be included in that clause.

I support the proposal made by my friend Shri Sinhasan Singh that the approval of all the States to all the members of the board is not necessary. The approval of that State for the member coming from that State alone is necessary, so that there may be a practical possibility of forming a board. Otherwise, any one State can hold up the formation of the inter Board by objecting to the membership of any single member.

The Minister of Planning and Irrigation and Power (Shri Nanda): Will he please repeat that point?

Shri S. L. Saksena: The proposal is that the membership of the board will have to be approved by all the States through which the river passes.

Shri Nanda: I do not think so. Where is it said?

1 P.M.

Shri S. L. Saksena: In clause 4(1) it is said that "no such notification shall be issued except in consultation with the Governments interested with respect to the proposal to establish the Board, the persons to be appointed as members thereof and the functions which the Board may be empowered to perform." It need not be in respect of all the members.

Shri Nanda: Consultation only.

Shri S. L. Saksena: But is it to be done in respect of all the members?

Shri Nanda: That is left to discretion.

Shri S. L. Saksena: So long as it is confined to the members that they propose it is all right. Otherwise there might be some unnecessary controversy. I suggest that this should be confined to the members that they propose and not for the appointment of all the members.

Then in clause 13(b), the Bill refers to preparing schemes, including multi-purpose schemes for the purpose of regulating or developing the inter-state river or river valley even where a State has not come forward with any such scheme on its own initiative.

I hope the first scheme under this Bill will be a multi-purpose scheme for training and controlling the rivers Ghaghra, Gandak and Rapti. The hon. Minister said that he was thinking of constructing small dams for these small rivers. The rivers Gomti or Tons may be small, but the Ghaghra is as big as the Ganges itself and the Gandak is as big as the Kosi.

Shri Nanda: I said about Rapti and Tons.

Shri S. L. Saksena: The Rapti is also as big as the Kosi. These rivers, namely, Ghaghra, Rapti and Gandak, are very big rivers and I would suggest that for them we may have big comprehensive multi-purpose schemes. They are bigger than the Sutlej, and bigger, I think, than many rivers for which large multi-purpose schemes have been discussed in this House, for instance, in respect of the Krishna and the Godavari. I would suggest that a big comprehensive multi-purpose scheme on the model of Bhakra-Nangal or Damodar Valley schemes should be prepared for the Ghaghra, Rapti and the Gandak under this Bill. I would request the hon'ble minister that he may immediately ask some engineers to make surveys and to prepare a scheme on the basis of the data which is available.

As I mentioned the other day, in the U.P. in 1938 the Chief Engineer, Mr. Wattell, prepared a scheme for taming the Ghaghra costing about Rs. 30 crores, and he said that when it was put into effect it would be of very great use to the State. The hon. Minister may send for that scheme also. He may ask the engineers to prepare a comprehensive multi-purpose scheme for the rivers, Ghaghra, Rapti and Gandak, to control and tame them, for the purpose of irrigation and power as well as for flood control. These rivers pass through an area which is the poorest and the most thickly populated, the population being one thousand per square mile. Therefore, if you have irrigation and power also, that will be all consumed and the people there will become well to do, and the scheme will be a very great success even financially.

Shri S. N. Das (Darbhanga Central): The present Bill is meant for harnessing various rivers, especially the inter-State rivers in the country to the best advantage of the country. It is well known that India is endowed with very rich resources both in land

[Shri S. N. Das]

and water, but the rich resources of water have not been harnessed to the best advantage of the country so far. This step for the formation and organisation of River Boards is, I think, a welcome step, and the hon. Minister is to be congratulated on that.

I think it would have been better if there had been a National Commission for the regulation and development of all the water resources in the country, instead of having so many Boards in so many parts of the country involving various States. I think it would have been better to have a comprehensive scheme to utilise the water resources of India to the best advantage of the country irrespective of any State. It would have been better to have a National Commission for the utilisation of the water resources in the country. Even now I would suggest that the Joint Committee may see that, instead of having so many different *ad hoc* Boards, inter-State Boards, they may frame this Bill in such a way that there could be provision for a National Commission. This National Commission should be duly authorised to act when the time comes for the appointment of any other inter-State Boards, if that is found necessary at that time. Therefore the first point that I would like to emphasise is that there should be a National Commission and not *ad hoc* inter-State Commissions or Boards of this nature.

The second point that I would like to make is this, that if there are *ad hoc* Boards the Bill does not provide the basis on which there would be representation on them. It has been provided that the Board will be constituted and members thereon will be appointed in consultation with the various States. But I think it will be better if a provision is made with regard to the basis on which representation will be made, to avoid any future dispute. And in that case, if there are separate *ad hoc* Boards, the various States will find that the provisions made with regard to the representation are sufficient and then they would

like to work according to the decisions given by that Board.

Then I would like to support the suggestion made by my hon. friend Shri Reddy who said that to the functions of the Board there should be the addition of an item regarding rehabilitation of the displaced persons when any such measures are taken and persons or villagers are displaced.

With regard to clause 19 relating to the budget of the Board I would like to suggest that the budget should not only be forwarded to the Central Government but when these inter-State Boards are appointed and if they prepare a budget—and they should prepare—that budget should be approved by the Central Government. That would be better.

There is an item that these Boards will conduct and co-ordinate research on various aspects of the conservation, regulation or utilisation of water resources, such as water power generation, irrigation, navigation, flood control, etc. With regard to this I would like to say that although there are some research stations in our country, they are not sufficient. So far no efforts have been made by the Central Government with regard to basic research as well as applied research. I would like to suggest to the hon. Minister that sufficient funds should be allocated, a permanent fund should be created from which all-round researches on the utilisation of water resources could be carried on by an organised body, may be by a statutory body.

And here I would like to mention one other matter, namely, that as regards the research workers engaged in such basic researches in various Laboratories in the country—not only water research but other scientific researches—the salary and terms and conditions of service of these research officers are not at par with those of the administrative officers, and therefore brilliant young men who are endowed with some scientific instinct, instead of going to researches, prefer to go and join the

administrative service, and in that way the nation is not able to utilise the services of these young persons for research work. I would therefore like to suggest to the hon. Minister that such young persons may be given an attraction to take to this research work by providing them better salary and better terms and conditions of service, so that young and scientific talent may not go astray to the administrative departments.

In clause 22 there is a provision that the decision of the arbitrator shall be final and binding on the parties and shall be given effect to by the Governments interested. I do not know in what way the decision will be forced on the Government. There must be some mention. If there is a Board and if the various States agree to such a Board, then the decision should be final and there should be some penalties in order to enforce the decisions. If there is a State which does not like to execute any project and if that State is not interested, then that State should be forced by some penalty clause, that is, the Central Government should stop the financial aid that is given to that State.

With regard to the submission of returns I would suggest that the reports of returns should be laid on the Table of the House whenever they are submitted.

With regard to the audit of accounts I think it would be better if a specific mention is made that the accounts of these River Boards, when they come into being would be audited by the Auditor-General.

I think the two Bills that we are going to send to the Joint Committee are very welcome Bills and they have come none too soon, and I think, with the adoption of these two Bills, the rick resources, specially the water resources of our country, the immense potential resources of our country will be utilized for irrigating the millions of acres of

land for production of food, for intensive industrialisation of the country, flood control and for providing a cheap means of transport by water.

In the end, I would like to stress that there should be a National Commission—not an *ad hoc* commission but a National Commission. It may be necessary to have some branches of that Commission in order to work out certain specific projects.

With these words I support the Bill and I hope that before the Bill comes back from the Joint Committee, the Joint Committee will incorporate in the Bill the suggestions which I have made here.

I support the Bill.

Shri Thanu Pillai (Tirunelveli): When I heard the speeches of friends opposite yesterday, I was wondering whether I was listening to the speech in the Indian Parliament or in the United Nations of the States of India. Whatever might have been the reasons for giving the States certain powers of autonomy in the Constitution as then constituted, when there was no consideration of planning by the Centre, those provisions do not fit in completely now. Then there was no ideal of socialistic pattern of society which we have envisaged now. Then it might well have been a necessity there. But today we have started re-thinking on many lines and it is time that we re-think about powers in respect of the States, which our friends want to guard so zealously. As Mr. Saksena just now observed, this Bill, though it starts as a River Board Bill, develops into an inter-State Rivers Bill. Nobody can object to the Government appointing a Board which will go into the question of certain rivers which flow through different States. But what about River which flows in one state only but regionally it could be exploited only by the joint efforts of certain other States. I do not know whether the clauses which are contained in this Bill could be interpreted in such a manner that certain areas

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cannot be covered by this Bill. So, I would like the hon. Minister and the Joint Committee to consider whether it should be inter-State River Board Bill or simply the River Boards Bill.

My friend Mr. Punnoose yesterday said that he would like to preserve the rivers of Travancore-Cochin for posterity and not like them to be exploited here and now. He said that he would rather have the waters preserved because he said "if we give it to Madras, we cannot take it back". I do not know whether he believes that in future the Arabian Sea will dry up and a hinterland would be developed in the West to receive the rivers that flow westwards or is it the policy that whatever happens for those waters, it should not be made available to the people in Madras or to some other State where it could be utilized. I can understand if he had said that if the resources are utilized by the adjacent State, then the adjacent State must be deprived of the authority of controlling the produce being taken or transported to the other State. I am sure that by joint effort if both Travancore-Cochin and Tamil Nad utilize the waters, then all the food that is necessary for that area can be produced by joint exploitation. But the approach to the problem by my Hon. friend is "covet not thy neighbour's wife and covet not thy neighbour's water". I should like to suggest that let my Hon. friend not covet power through poverty and pestilence and through instigation to consequences of that poverty. It is time that we developed this country and integrated it into one union, not through those means that are being suggested, but integrated through irrigation and preserve it with power because irrigation and power, jointly exploited, developed and utilised by the neighbouring States, will bring unity in our area and that alone will contribute to the real unity and strength of India. If these natural resources are to be left as they are and not exploited it will bring into play provincialism and counter-pro-

vincialism and the result will be that India will be poorer. If only one part is developed and not other parts, there may not be equality and there may not be real unity. As often as possible, those who have not been able to sit together, whether it is in the North or South, will utilize the Board for the exploitation of the rivers. Therefore, I request the Minister to consider whether this River Boards Bill should not be changed into an all-comprehensive Bill so that it can take the whole picture of India and develop the regions wherever it is necessary, and solve inter-State problems whether it is between Mysore and Andhra or Andhra and Madras or Madras and Travancore-Cochin. There should not be any difference in treatment. With these words, I support the Bill.

Shri S. C. Samanta (Tamluk): India is land of so many long flowing rivers. For example, some big rivers beginning from the Himalayas flow through Hardwar, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Bengal and join the Bay of Bengal. These rivers were not harnessed before Independence. Now we are for harnessing the waters of these rivers. So it is wise that we must have an Act to control the disputes that may arise while utilising these resources.

We are taking so many multi-purpose schemes and multi-purpose river valley schemes and in that every State may have some grievances. But those grievances, so far as I remember, were being redressed mutually. But a time has come when that cannot be done. Yesterday, a friend from Mysore openly declared, we have no disputes with the States around us. Next to that, another friend said, that there are disputes, that disputes will arise and it is wise that the Government have come forward with this Bill before us. I whole heartedly support the Bill and its reference to the Joint Committee.

I should like to refer to clause 22 where the question of arbitrator has been dealt with. Yesterday, we referred to a Joint Committee a Bill for settling disputes and when we have established these River Boards, we will also be referring to the arbitrators the cases that would arise. I was thinking whether these arbitrators will be given so much powers as we want to give to the tribunal for settling inter-State disputes. Two organisations are being formed almost for the same purpose, though under the two Bills, the conditions in which the disputes will be referred to the arbitrators and to the tribunal are somewhat different. I would request the Government to give thought to this so that the tribunal or arbitrator may do the same work.

I shall come to clause 13, dealing with powers and functions of the Board. It is very gratifying that so much power has been given to this Board to execute so many things. I find it stated here: promotion and control of navigation; promotion of afforestation and control of soil erosion. We are having the ravages of flood very often. Unless we take to the promotion of afforestation and control of soil erosion, floods can never be checked. I am glad that this Board is going to take up this work, not in one State, but in the whole of India. If this work is not taken up, all the other good steps contemplated by the hon. Minister and expressed before us yesterday in respect of so many States, would have only temporary effect. For permanent remedy, we must have afforestation. If we kill one tree, we must plant ten instead. We must have afforestation so that there will be no erosion. There is silt ~~or~~ deposited from erosion in the rivers. On account of that, havoc comes upon us in the form of floods. We are glad that this work has been entrusted with this Board, and we hope that the needful will be done.

I have no time. I would request the hon. Minister to give thought to

this question of the tribunal and the arbitrators, and also to the question of giving ample powers to the Board for the work of afforestation for flood control and for navigation purposes also.

Shri Nanda: I am so glad that this Bill has the wholehearted support of all sections of the House. I am happy that the main purpose of this proposed legislation is being so clearly appreciated in this House. The purpose is that we should provide for the unhindered development of the water resources of the nation on an integrated basis in order to secure optimum results. This is being very clearly appreciated. But, my embarrassment is that the House wants to go farther than I, the Government, and the Bill intend to. I very clearly enter into their feelings. I fully appreciate what is at the back of the mind of the hon. Members when they make this suggestion. There is value in it. But, my difficulty lies partly in the Constitution and partly also in the consideration that the results that we are aiming at will be secured better by the structure and the machinery that has been incorporated in this Bill rather than in taking powers and centralising all the functions in the hands of the Central Government.

Related to this aspect of the question, there were suggestions made, why not have only the Central Government dealing with all these matters a national commission which approves of the schemes and get them executed, and a machinery which does not depend upon the advice of a Board or any dilatory arrangement which, according to hon. Members, these Boards would mean. There was also a suggestion that not only the inter-State rivers, but also the rivers which are confined to one State may also be brought within the jurisdiction of this measure. I referred to the Constitution. I referred to the practical considerations. In the Constitution, entry 56, which is, as I pointed out, the basis for this Bill has made it very explicit: regulation and develop-

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ment of inter-State rivers and river valleys. So, this is the limited jurisdiction for the purpose of this Bill. Furthermore, in entry 17 of the State list, the scope of the exercise of powers by the States has also been laid down: Water, that is to say, water supplies, irrigation and canals, drainage and embankments, water storage and water power subject to the provisions of entry 56 of List I, to which I have referred to. These are the confines within which we have to function so far as this legislation is concerned. I might furthermore add that, apart from the fact that we have to work within the four corners of the Constitution which provides for this country a federal structure, I do not see how we are going to benefit by not enlisting the goodwill and co-operation of the States where all these functions have to be carried out. The Central Government simply by issuing orders or taking authority for the whole of the country is not going to discharge these functions more effectively or more efficiently or to the greater satisfaction of the people. This might create more difficulties and more complications. This is on the whole a good approach. Hon. Members have directed most of their attention to this machinery of Boards and rightly so. This is the pivot of the whole machinery that is being provided for carrying out the objects of this legislation.

Objection is raised to the advisory functions of the Board. It is asked, why not make it final and binding in the first instance. There is some misconception that the Board having given advice and the particular advice not being accepted by a State we are rendered helpless, and the intentions of the legislation therefore cannot be carried out. This is not so. This is one step. This is one stage. There is the other stage of arbitration, so that wherever the advice of the Board is not accepted, not carried out, not agreed to, then the Central

Government or either party can go to the arbitrator on the issues in dispute. The points of difference can be referred to the arbitrator and a decision taken, so that there is provision for bringing these matters to a stage of finality and not leaving them in the middle in the undecided condition.

Then there was the question relating to the same subject—and that was again based on some misunderstanding—viz., if you make it contingent on initiating the matter by the States and the States having initiated the matter, they are in the hands of the Board in the first instance and later on in the hands of the arbitrator, there may be liabilities flowing from that, financial liabilities which may not be to liking of the States concerned, to the State which has been responsible for initiating the machinery. Therefore, the inference is drawn that States will be chary of making any reference to the Board at all, and thereby the whole procedure will become ineffective. The position is that one State or another, the State which is interested, is interested sufficiently to approach a third party for the purpose of clarification, for the purpose of advice, in order that certain important schemes from which it expects to draw large benefits by way of irrigation, power etc., may not be held up. They are sufficiently interested to go to the Board in order that this delay may be cut short, so that the fact that there are going to be financial liabilities is not going to come in the way of a reference, because large vital interests of the States are concerned in it. If one State does not do it, another is going to do it for its own sake.

And then, before the Board is constituted, there has to be consultation, before members are appointed there has to be consultation. So, it is said since it depends upon consultation, the States may act in a manner that the intentions of the legislation may be defeated and no Board may

come into being. This is also a misunderstanding, because I may refer again to that expression in clause 4 "or otherwise". This consultation is just consultation, and if there is...

Shri Sinhasan Singh: The proviso, I said, takes away.

Shri Nanda: The proviso says that no such notification shall be issued except in consultation with the Governments interested. Prior consultation is necessary. Prior approval or consent is not necessary. Therefore, the procedure of consultation will certainly be gone through in a very real way, and it has got its advantage, but if consultation still leaves a residue of disagreement, that should not stand in the way of a notification being issued. That is my answer to the point of the hon. Member. A notification will still issue if the Central Government feels that in spite of doubts and disagreements expressed by one State or the other, it is proper that a notification should issue.

Pursuing the same line of thought, hon. Members suggested that we should provide through the Central Government, finances for executing schemes and central machinery for executing schemes, because if the States do not carry out the advice, what then? I shall answer that question. The arbitrator having been approached and having given a decision or the scheme having been adopted, it is quite a very valid question. The decision is there. One State has to acquire land and has also to initiate some other steps in order that something may be set up here and the work may be executed, but if it refuses to do so, what happens? There, I have again and again to invite the attention of the Members to this clause 16(c). Whatever it is, all that power, all the possibilities of remedying any neglect or refusal on the part of one State, all those are stated here in 16(3). It is within the power of the Central Government to inspect or cause to be inspected any works undertaken by any Government interested. One of the States says: "Here is

the award which provides for certain steps to be taken by the other State, certain powers to be exercised by the other State, that is not being done." Then, at its request or even otherwise, the Central Government may step in and assist the Government interested in taking these steps—it is made very clear and specific—for the execution of the scheme. So, with the organisation which the Central Government has, with its resources, it should not be difficult for the Central Government to go and do the things which are not being done by the State, and it should be done in pursuance of the award of the arbitrator.

Then, there was this question of the functions of the Board. All the functions that have been incorporated are, of course, to the liking of the Members, nothing has to be reduced, but there are suggestions to enlarge those functions. Rehabilitation of displaced persons was mentioned. In the list of functions, there is another added: "such other matters as may be prescribed". Possibly these things could be included in that. But, if the Joint Committee when it takes up this matter for consideration comes to the conclusion that an addition of this kind will be useful, certainly it is open to the Joint Committee to do that.

Then, there are some other minor suggestions about the functioning of the Board. It is said that the Central Government should accept the advice of the Board if both the States agree on a certain course. It need not be mentioned that unless there is good reason to the contrary, this will be done. The reason may lie in the other approach which most of the Members have suggested, and which betokens very deep and great concern for avoiding any waste of resources, for securing the maximum development. It may be that on such grounds the Central Government may have some ideas which it may be necessary to put before the arbitrator. And a very

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important consideration which accounts for this machinery that has been incorporated in this Bill is that it may be that the Central Government may dispense with all this and say: "We do all that", but hon. Members will realise that the States concerned have their own views, and would it not be better to give them this opportunity, this satisfaction that it is not some people sitting here in the Central Government who dispose of their destiny regarding such vital matters, but that they have a chance, an opportunity of appearing before the Board in the constitution of which they have participated? Even after having done that, if they still feel dissatisfied, then there is another step provided. There is an arbitrator in the person of a Supreme Court Judge or a High Court Judge. These safeguards are very necessary. It may be that this procedure involves a little more time. But on the other hand, this is necessary from the point of view of the collaboration of the States, which is indispensable, and the satisfaction of the States and the people that in such matters as for instance where sharing of the waters of rivers is concerned, and where irrigation of large tracts of a State is concerned, the matter is not decided by just a few people sitting at the Centre, but it is decided after it has been fully thrashed out, fully examined, and fully scrutinised in all its aspects, not only from the technical point of view but also at the judicial level. This is the justification for the machinery that has been provided.

Shri Viswanatha Reddy (Chittoor): Where there is unanimity of opinion among the States concerned, what objection is there for the Central Government to include in this Bill a peremptory provision to the effect that that scheme will be accepted?

Shri Nanda: There will be no occasion at all for that. The question is that there may be only two States

that enter into the dispute at the moment, but a third State also may be concerned, a lower riparian State or certain areas of it. In such a case, the objective of integrated development may require the Central Government to step in. Some hon. Members have said, let us have a master plan, and let the regional plans be fitted into that master plan. Supposing there is that master plan, then in order that a decision taken on any matter confined to two States may not conflict with the overall scheme of development that we have for the whole country, it is necessary that the Central Government should have an opportunity to have their say. It is not that the Central Government can override the board; it is not that the Central Government can dispense with the reference to the arbitrator. But they can also go before the arbitrator or the board. Therefore, this is not a matter which should cause any kind of worry to anybody that any untoward consequences will flow from such a discretion being permitted to the Central Government.

Certain other points were raised in regard to the appointment of the arbitrator. One or two hon. Members raised the question, why have a retired Supreme Court judge, why not have a retired High Court Judge? On the other hand, there was a suggestion entirely contrary to this, and it was asked, why have a retired Supreme Court Judge at all, why not have only a working Supreme Court Judge.

In fact, originally we had made a provision only for a working Supreme Court Judge. But we referred the matter to the Chief Justice of India, and we received his advice thereon. And the alteration that has been made is on the basis of that advice. It may be that on considerations of availability of persons, we would have preferred the other courts. And in fact, if we had provided for a serving or working Supreme Court Judge, as

one hon. Member said, it might have strengthened the idea of those who would be in favour of restricting these posts only to working judges. But as I stated, we were entirely in the hands of the Chief Justice of India. His advice was that we may include sitting judges of the High Courts and retired judges of the Supreme Court. We have abided by that advice. And that is the justification for the present provision. I have already dealt with certain other points raised by the hon. Member, before he came, and it would not be possible for me to repeat it now.

One other point was raised, saying that let no question be left to the Supreme Court to decide, exclude the jurisdiction of the courts altogether, and let no court, including the Supreme Court, be permitted to take cognizance of any question arising out of this legislation or any decision of the arbitrator appointed under this measure. In fact, we had provided for such a thing in the other Bill regarding inter-State water disputes. But there is a difference here. The reason for this is as follows. In the other case, the Constitution itself has made a provision to that effect. Article 262 (2) specifically provides:

"Notwithstanding anything in this Constitution, Parliament may by law provide that neither the Supreme Court nor any other court shall exercise jurisdiction in respect of any such dispute or complaint as is referred to in clause (1)."

We were acting under this article of the Constitution in the case of the other Bill. But in this case, it is not open to us to provide for such exception.

I think I have dealt with all the points that have been raised. If there are any other points left, they can be taken up in the Joint Committee and considered there.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That this House concurs in the recommendation of Rajya Sabha that the House do join in the Joint Committee of the Houses on the Bill to provide for the establishment of River Boards for the regulation and development of inter-State rivers and river valleys made in the motion adopted by Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 15th September, 1955 and communicated to this House on the 19th September, 1955 and resolves that the following members of Lok Sabha be nominated to serve on the said Joint Committee, namely, Shri Piare Lal Kureel 'Talib', Shri Sohan Lal Dhusiya, Shri Sunder Lal, Shri Vyankatrao Pivajirao Pawar, Shri Ramappa Balappa Bidari, Shri Chandrashanker Bhatt, Shri G. R. Damodaran, Shri M. Sankarapandian, Dr. M. V. Gangadhara Siva, Shri M. K. Shivananjappa, Shri Laxman Sharwan Bhatkar, Shri Nand Lal Joshi, Shri P. Ramaswamy, Shri Anirudha Sinha, Shri Lalit Narayan Mishra, Shri Nayan Tara Das, Shri Ranbir Singh Chaudhuri, Shri Lakshman Singh Charak, Shri Basanta Kumar Das, Shri Sitanath Brohmo-Chaudhury, Shri B. Ramachandra Reddi, Shri Kadiyala Gopala Rao, Shri Nikunja Behari Chowdhury, Shri Y. Gadilingana Gowd, Shri Jaswantraj Mehta, Shri V. Veeraswamy, Shri Bahadur Singh, Shri R. Velayudhan, Shri Anandchand and Shri Gulzarilal Nanda."

The motion was adopted.

MOTION RE ECONOMIC POLICY

MOTION RE ECONOMIC POLICY
ture (Shri A. P. Jain): With your permission, I would like to move the motion standing in my name, with a

[Shri A. P. Jain]

little amendment, because there is a slight misprint.

I beg to move:

"That the economic policy of the Government of India with special reference to agriculture, land, and rural credit be taken into consideration."

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: What is the amendment of the hon. Minister?

Shri A. P. Jain: Instead of 'agricultural', the word should be 'agriculture'. That is to say, the policy will be with special reference to agriculture, land, and rural credit.

In doing so, I propose to dwell briefly on the broad objectives of the economic policy in relation to the agricultural sector of our economy. The importance of this sector can hardly be over emphasised. Contributing as it does more than 50 per cent of our national income, and providing livelihood for 70 per cent of the total population, the agricultural sector is bound to loom large in any plan of economic development. The First Five Year Plan rightly gave the highest priority to the development of agriculture, the accent being on increased production of food and raw materials to achieve the targets laid out in the Plan. In the circumstances of shortages and high prices, emphasis on production was justified, but now that we have achieved a substantial measure of success in stepping up the tempo of agricultural production, we can afford to take a broader view, and aim at the development of the agricultural economy as a whole.

The expansion of agricultural production in relation to the targets fixed under the First Five Year Plan has not only strengthened the agricultural base of our economy, but has also created a favourable climate for stepping up the rate of investment. The production of foodgrains has increased from 50 million tons in 1950-51 to 65·8 million tons in 1954-55, exceeding the Plan target for 1955-56 by

about 4·2 million tons. Whereas we imported 4·7 million tons of foodgrains in 1951, our imports during 1955 are expected to be not more than ·8 million tons, and this is intended not so much for meeting the requirements of internal consumption as for building an adequate reserve. In fact, the food position has taken such a favourable turn that it has been possible for the Government to allow exports of rice, jowar, maize, gram and other pulses and wheat products. I may here strike a note of confidence by emphasising that the overall situation in the country would not be seriously affected by the recent floods in Assam, West Bengal, U.P., Bihar, and Orissa, however distressing they may be in other respects. I do not apprehend any difficulty in meeting the requirements of food in these areas, judged by the reports of crop conditions I have received from the various States and the reserve stocks that the Government have at their disposal. Not only is the position satisfactory in the case of foodgrains alone. The production of commercial crops, on which our industries depend for their raw material and which contributes so much to our export earnings, has shown a considerable improvement. The production of cotton has increased from 2·9 million bales in 1950-51 to 4·3 million bales in 1954-55 and has thus already exceeded the target set for 1955-56. Similar is the case with regard to oilseeds whose production in 1954-55 has exceeded the first Plan target by ·4 million tons. Only in the case of jute is the pace of progress somewhat slow. But even here, current production has been substantially higher than in 1949-50. The production of sugar touching nearly 16 lakh tons in 1954-55 has been the highest on record, and in view of the considerably easy sugar position, there is no intention to place new orders for the import of sugar.

Expansion in agricultural production which has been the outstanding

economic development during the period of the first Plan has not only to be sustained but considerably improved upon under the Second Plan if we have to meet the food requirements of our increasing population, provide for a higher standard of living for our people and earn foreign exchange that would be needed for the general economic development of the country. With this objective in view, we propose to make a substantial provision in the Second Plan. The matter is still under consideration, but present indications are that it would probably be about 50 per cent higher than what was provided in the First Plan. We propose to step up the production of foodgrains by about 10 million tons in 1960-61, that is, an increase of 15 per cent over 1955-56. The additional area to be irrigated by minor as well as major schemes is likely to be well over 20 million acres. The Central Tractor Organisation alone proposes to reclaim about 10 lakh acres of waste land and the States are expected to reclaim a substantial area. The production of nitrogenous fertilisers is proposed to be stepped up three times and three new fertiliser factories will be set up. A new country-wide scheme for the multiplication and distribution of improved seeds through a network of 5000 seed farms and seed stores, one in each development block, is proposed to be started. Much greater emphasis is being put on plant protection work than ever before. Central pools of plant protection equipment will be located at 10 strategic centres in the country and a special field station will be set up for carrying on investigation on locust control. Research, education and extension service have been subjected to a thorough examination by a joint team of Indian and American experts whose report is keenly awaited for removing the weakness of our system. Education in agriculture is being largely expanded with a view to providing trained personnel and maintaining a constant flow of improved technique to the National Extension Service

blocks, being extended rapidly so as to cover the entire country by 1961.

Our broad objective is to step up through these methods the index number of our agricultural production which, compared to the base year of 1949-50, has already gone up to 114 in the current year and which we shall endeavour to raise to 135 in 1960-61. This will enable us to improve the *per capita* daily calorific intake from 1800 as at present to 2250 in 1960-61, and increase the *per capita* annual availability of cloth from 15 yards to at least 18 yards. We also propose to lay greater emphasis on protective foods, milk, fruits and fish, meat and eggs, etc. with a view to removing the deficiencies in our diet. It is essential, however, that if these broad objectives have to be fulfilled, certain basic factors which govern agricultural production should now claim our increasing attention. I have in mind particularly three factors: the maintenance of agricultural prices at a reasonable level, the provision of marketing, warehousing and credit facilities, and reform of land system including reorganisation of agriculture, both as a measure of social justice and as an incentive to greater efficiency. I offer no apology for taking some time of the House in dealing with these problems. The downward trend of prices after de-control has raised a doubt in the minds of some people whether the proposed increase of foodgrain and other agricultural produce under the Second Five Year Plan will not lead to a glut and further depression of prices. A certain amount of fall in the prices was inevitable after de-control, but a part of fluctuation and fall in prices is temporary. I do not think that we have reached a stage of absolute surplus in our agricultural economy. With the increasing population, the need for improved nutritional standards and increased purchasing power, I see no reason why we should not be able to consume the additional production.

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In any case, I consider that an economy of surplus is any day better than one of shortages. We must, therefore, keep up the tempo of our increasing production. With that end in view, as a temporary measure, to sustain our economy, Government decided to give support to the price of agricultural products. Members are, no doubt, aware of the measures taken by Government for arresting the downward trend in prices, especially of foodgrains. Government have given limited price support to coarse grains like jowar, bajra, maize and to wheat and gram. The announcement of a minimum price for jowar, bajra and maize at Rs. 5-8, Rs. 6 and Rs. 5-8 per maund respectively and Rs. 10 for wheat and Rs. 6 for gram has had the desired effect of stemming the fall in prices which at one stage threatened to be precipitous, and today the prices of these commodities are ruling well above the specified minimum. In fact, prices of late have shown a hardening tendency. The purchases made by Government, in pursuance of the policy of price support, have been small. By the end of July 1955, about 76,000 tons of wheat, 38,000 tons of jowar, 1200 tons of gram and a very small quantity of maize have been purchased by the State Governments. The purchase of *kharif* crop grain and gram has practically ceased. The question of giving price support to rice was recently considered by a Conference of Food Secretaries of the principal rice-growing States and the officials of the Government of India and it has been decided to purchase coarse varieties of rice at Rs. 11 per maund and coarse varieties of paddy at a price equivalent to that price of rice.

2 P.M.

Government have already set up a committee to enquire into the nature and causes of variation in agricultural prices.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Will the price of paddy be the same, that is equal to that of rice?

Shr. A. P. Jain: At a price equivalent to that of rice, that is, proportionate price.

Government have already set up a committee to enquire into the nature and causes of variation in agricultural prices over different periods of time and as between different regions in the country. Further, for exploring markets for various agricultural commodities and for capturing old ones, the Government are also contemplating to send a Trade Mission abroad.

Government has also liberalised the export quota of a number of other agricultural commodities, placed a number of foodgrains on the free list of export, given special facilities for export to co-operative societies and grows and has also reduced export duties in several cases. Rice was exported for the first time after a period of ten years in 1954 and export of gur, gram and pulses has been allowed freely. Liberal export quotas of vegetable oils, oil cakes, castor etc. has been allowed. It will be interesting to note that our purchases of wheat were less than 1 per cent of the total crop and in the case of gram the very announcement of the minimum price produced a steadying effect on the prices. It will be a matter of general satisfaction that our stabilisation policy had, by and large, given the desired effect and the current prices are generally above the minimum prices. These measures are, however, at best correctives which can be expected to ease the position in the short run. But, for any improvement of a lasting and permanent nature, we have to seek other remedies. The ultimate solution of the problem is, no doubt to reduce the cost of production by improving the efficiency of agriculture, in producing the same quantity at a lower cost

or a higher quantity at a proportionately less cost. The various measures which Government are taking in the field of irrigation, improved seeds, fertilizer uses, plant protection, research and education will, no doubt, go a long way in this direction. But, it would also be necessary to carry out certain institutional changes which will make agriculture profitable and enable the farmer to obtain the optimum returns.

This brings me to the second point which I have already mentioned, namely, the provision of storage, warehousing and credit facilities on an adequate scale. One of the important contributory causes of the marked fluctuations in agricultural prices and of the low income of the agriculturists has been his lack of holding power due to the absence of storage facilities and facility for credit. The Rural Credit Survey Committee came to the conclusion that the co-operative structure, in spite of 50 years of work, has failed to meet the needs of rural credit and marketing. The share of co-operatives was only 3.1 per cent of the total credit annually needed and covered only 3.2 per cent of the borrowing farmers. The medium and small scale farmers were generally left out. After examining the alternative agencies for the supply of credit, the Committee was of opinion that the agency for the supply of rural credit must be institutional and co-operative. It has recommended the intensification and expansion of the functions of the Reserve Bank for the organisation and strengthening the co-operative system and the creation of the State Bank of India as a supplementary source for the supply of agricultural marketing credit. The Committee has recommended the creation of certain funds in the Reserve Bank and the Ministry of Food and Agricultural and the re-conditioning of the credit co-operative societies at all levels—primary, district and apex—in order to evolve a strong and well knit structure.

The Committee has also recommended the creation of a nation-wide network of co-operative marketing

societies and warehouses which should be closely co-ordinated with the credit co-operatives. The State has to play an effective role by subscribing to the share capital of the cooperative societies, training the personnel and exercising broad directional supervision.

Hon. Members would be aware that the Reserve Bank Act has been recently amended so as to enable that Bank to effectively discharge the functions assigned to it by the Rural Credit Survey Committee. For the last many years the Reserve Bank has been playing an important role in the organisation and supply of credit to the co-operative societies. It gives short-term loans at the concessional rate of 1½ per cent per annum without any limit of amount provided the security eligible under the law is forthcoming. As the co-operative organisation in the State gains in strength and the eligible security is available, the amount of short term credit loan is augmented by the Reserve Bank. The period of the short term loan has been increased from 9 to 15 months and the scope has been enlarged to include mixed farming activities, processing of crops, cottage industry etc. In the result, short-term loans to the State Co-operative Banks have increased from Rs. 5.77 crores in 1950-51 to Rs. 21.21 crores in 1954-55. The Reserve Bank of India Act has also been amended in 1953 to enable it to offer medium-term accommodation up to a limit of Rs. 5 crores at the same concessional rate of 1½ per cent. The Bank also subscribes to the debentures of the Land Mortgage Banks. The latest amendment of the Reserve Bank of India Act has empowered the Bank to create out of its fund 'The Agricultural Credit Long Term Operation Fund' and the 'National Credit Stabilisation Fund', as recommended by the Rural Credit Survey Committee. The Bank will initially contribute to the Long-Term Operation Fund a sum of Rs. 10 crores non-recurring and a recurring sum of not less than Rs. 5 crores every year. Similarly, the Bank will contribute to the Stabi-

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lisation Fund not less than Rs. 1 crore every year. The Long-Term Operation Fund will be applied exclusively for the making of loans and advances to State Governments for subscribing to the share capital of co-operative societies, for making medium-term loans to State co-operative banks for agricultural purposes and for making long-term loans and advances to Central land mortgage banks. The Stabilisation Fund will be utilised for the making of medium-term loans and advances to State co-operative banks to enable them to convert short-term credit into medium term credit whenever necessary owing to drought, flood, famine and otherlike calamities.

Hon. Members will agree that the Reserve Bank is now fully equipped to discharge the functions of promoting and financing the co-operative movement. Hon. Members are also aware that the Imperial Bank of India has been nationalised and converted into the State Bank of India. The role of the State Bank in the supply of rural credit facilities will be a growing one, its exact scope depending on examination and periodical review by the State Bank, Reserve Bank and Government of India. Apart from the very valuable assistance to the rural credit implicit in the large programme of branch expansion, the State Bank will provide vastly extended remittance facilities for co-operative institutions. Although the main responsibility for making advances direct to the agriculturists rests with the Co-operative Bank and Land Mortgage Banks, the State Bank of India will assist cooperative marketing and processing and the cottage and small-scale industries by making advances against goods and their title documents. It may also buy the debentures of a Land Mortgage Bank and act as the Agent of a co-operative bank. The State Bank of India is now well in a position to undertake those responsibilities.

The broad features of the reconditioned rural credit structure will be the large-sized credit societies at the

base. The area of operation of large-sized societies will generally be about 5 villages if irrigated and 10 to 15 villages if unirrigated. It will have a membership of about 500 persons. The liability of each member will be five times the face value of the capital subscribed by him. The society will have the minimum share capital of Rs. 15,00 which will increase to Rs. 20,000 by 1960-61. The State Government will contribute about Rs. 10,000 to the share capital out of the funds advanced by the Reserve Bank. The annual turnover of the Society is expected to be Rs. 1.5 to Rs. 2 lakhs, which will enable it to employ whole-time trained and qualified persons. As it is not likely that the Society will make sufficient profits in the early stages, it will be given a subsidy during the first three years of its working. The large-sized society will not only supply credit but also essential articles like salt, fertiliser, kerosene, matches, etc. It will function as an agent of the marketing society and will have a small godown of its own or take one on rent. The loans will be related to production programme and will be advanced on the security of prospective crop instead of rights in land. Efforts will be made to sanction loans as far as possible in kind. It is expected that by the end of 1960-61, about 12,000 large-sized societies will be set up and 5000 godowns constructed. After the absorption of some of the existing societies into the large-sized societies, it is expected that one lakh out of the one lakh and a quarter existing societies will continue to survive. Both these types of societies by the end of 1960-61 are expected to advance short-term loans of Rs. 150 crores and medium-term loans of Rs. 50 crores which together with long-term loans of Rs. 25 crores would meet 30 per cent of the rural credit needs of the farmers and cover about one-third of the villages and population.

The large-sized credit societies will get their loans from the Central Co-operative Banks. Normally, there would be one Central Co-operative

Bank for one district but in case of large districts, a Central Bank may have to be provided for a smaller administrative unit. About 20 new Central Banks will be opened and the existing Central Banks will be strengthened by increasing the share capital and supply of qualified staff. All Part A and Part B States already have Apex Banks which will have to be strengthened to meet the increased needs of the rural credit. The rate of interest which in some States at present is as high as 12 per cent. is proposed to be reduced to 6½ per cent.

There are at present 9 Central Land Mortgage Banks and it is proposed to increase their number to 18, so that each Part A and Part B State may have a Central Land Mortgage Bank. The Primary Land Mortgage Banks are at present concentrated in Madras, Andhra and Mysore. During the Second Five-Year Plan it is not proposed to set up any large number of primary Banks, and their normal work will be done by Central Banks through a special section created for the purpose. The total cost of creating large-sized society, augmenting and strengthening the Central, Apex and Land Mortgage Banks would come to nearly Rs. 25 crores to be subscribed by the Reserve Bank and about Rs. 10 crores to be supplied by the Central and State Governments for construction of godowns and subsidising the staff.

The Rural Credit Survey Committee has for the purpose of organising co-operative marketing and processing recommended the creation of a National Co-operative Development and Warehousing Board at the policy level and of a National Warehousing Corporation and State Warehousing Corporations at the operational level. These will function under the Ministry of Food and Agriculture. The creation of the Board and the Corporation has been accepted in principle and a Bill for setting up these institutions is being drafted and will soon be placed before the Parliament. The functions of the Board will be to plan and promote on a country-wide basis the deve-

lopment of co-operative activities in production, processing, marketing etc., and provide facilities for storage and warehousing of agricultural produce. The Government will pay the Board a non-recurring grant of Rs. 5 crores and a recurring grant each year of not less than Rs. 5 crores for the next 5 years and thereafter such sum as may be necessary to enable the Board to discharge its functions. Out of these allocations two funds, namely, a Development Fund and a Warehousing Fund will be created and Rs. 15 crores allocated to each. The developmental activities will include the setting up of primary and apex marketing societies and the promotion of production and processing co-operatives. The Board will advance money to the State Governments as grants and loans and the State Governments will in their turn assist the Co-operative Societies (1) by subscribing to the share capital, (2) loans and grants for construction of godowns and (3) grants to subsidise expenditure on staff during the initial years. The processing Co-operative Societies such as sugar mills, cotton gins, oil expellers, jute balers, etc., will be assisted by the advancement of loans on easy terms. It is proposed to set up 1500 Primary Marketing Societies and construct 1200 godowns during the Second Five-Year Plan period. At the Apex, we hope to set up a number of new Societies and give one Society to each Part A and B State. The total cost of these operations will come to about Rs. 18 crores.

The Bill will also provide for the establishment of a Central Warehousing Corporation and State Warehousing Corporations. The Central Warehousing Corporation will have the share capital of Rs. 20 crores out of which 50 per cent. will be immediately subscribed. The Government of India will contribute Rs. 4 crores to the share capital and the balance will be provided by the State Bank of India, the Commercial Banks, Insurance Companies, Co-operative Societies, etc. The functions of the Central Warehousing Corporation would be to

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set up warehouses at places of all-India importance and to subscribe to the share capital of the State Warehousing Corporation. Preliminary steps are being taken for the location of warehouses and for the selection of commodities for warehousing. The State Governments have also been advised to include in their Second Five-Year Programme for construction of warehouses. A Technical Committee has been set up in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture to work out the suggestion regarding the number of warehouses, the type of construction required, the choice of commodities to be stored and the requirements of personnel for the warehouses. As a result of the programme of warehouses and the construction of godowns, it is anticipated that by the end of 1960-61 storage space having a capacity of two million tons will be available. The warehousing will cost the Central and State Governments Rs. 10 crores during the Second Plan period.

In order to provide personnel for the co-operative movement each important State will have at least one institute for the training of subordinate rank of personnel which will turn out 3,000 persons every year. There will be five regional training colleges which will provide 1,500 trained personnel in the intermediate grade during the Second Plan period and the all India Co-operative Training College, Poona will train 300 higher grade officers during the same period. A co-operative officer will also be posted in every National Extension Block. The requirements of personnel in this category would be around 4,000. These will be trained separately in eight regional institutions. These, it is hoped, will meet the personnel requirements of the co-operative movement.

To sum up, the cost of fulfilling the entire programme during the Second Five Year Plan would come to Rs. 25 crores for the Reserve Bank and Rs. 50 crores for the Central and State Governments. This will be in addition to

short, medium and long-term loans which will be available from the Reserve Bank of India.

Before I conclude this very important question of rural credit survey, I would like to say a few words on the question of States' participation, regulation and control of the co-operative movement, which at one time caused a little stir among the non-official co-operators. The important recommendations of the Rural Credit Survey Committee which attracted some controversy were that at the Apex and the Central level, Government should contribute not less than 51 per cent. of the share capital. In the primary societies, the Government may, if need arises, contribute share capital to make up the shortfall. The States' contribution to the primary societies will be retired within a fixed period of time but will continue indefinitely in the case of Central and apex institutions. In the institutions in which the Government is the major shareholder, it will have the power to nominate upto one third of the directors. Government shall also have the power to reverse or modify decisions or enforce its own decisions on certain important matters, namely, the soundness of financial policies and the larger objectives of loaning policies. A selection of the non-official co-operators felt that the States' major participation in the share capital would retard the growth of initiative and destroy the autonomous character of the co-operative institutions. It was argued that the State nomination to the board of directors of the co-operative institutions will lead to the centralization of power, the institutions at the lower level being controlled by those above and the whole structure being subjected to the control of the party in power. These among other recommendations of the Rural Credit Survey Committee were discussed at length by the Second Indian Co-operative Congress held at Patna in March last. It was attended, among others, by the representatives of the State co-operative organisations and prominent co-operators. The

Congress, after a good deal of deliberation, passed resolutions welcoming State participation in the co-operative movement but cautioned that such participation should be so regulated as not to disturb the democratic character of co-operative institutions. The holding of the shares should not entitle the State to have any preponderant voice in the normal working of the co-operative societies. States' representatives on the board of directors would be desirable but such nomination need not exceed three persons who may not necessarily be Government officials. The power and right of the State Government or its nominee should not be used for interference with the internal administration of the societies. Government's special power should be strictly confined to the loan policy of the institutions and where such questions of financial policy are involved, the Government should consult the Reserve Bank of India before issuing any directive. All these recommendations of the Patna Co-operative Congress were endorsed by a Conference of the State Ministers of Co-operation convened by the Ministry of Food and Agriculture in April last.

These recommendations have now been accepted by the Government and I assure the House that the State participation in the share capital is neither intended nor will be used to interfere in the normal working of the co-operative institutions. The use of the special overriding powers of the State will be confined to the soundness of the financial policies and the larger objectives and will be exercised with great caution. These categorical assurances should set at rest any doubt which may have arisen. The Patna Co-operative Congress also recommended that the representatives of the non-official co-operators on the National Co-operative Development and Warehousing Board should be increased from two to four. This recommendation has been accepted by the Government.

The enlarged facilities for better farming, rural credit, marketing, pro-

cessing and warehousing, which I have referred to above are, no doubt, good things, but the farmer cannot be enthused to put in labour and money unless he knows that the land which he is developing today will be his tomorrow and the land system assures to him the fruits of his labour. The First Five Year Plan has laid down the economic objectives of our land system to be the increase of agricultural production and a higher level of efficiency and its social objectives as reducing disparities in wealth and income, elimination of exploitation, provisions of securities for tenant and worker which finally promises equality of status and opportunity to different sections of the rural population.

Hon. Members are aware that we are working under a federal system in which there is definite allocation of functions to the Centre and the States each being autonomous within the sphere of its activities, except in respect of items mentioned in the Concurrent List. Rights in land and land tenure come under item 18 of the State List. Constitutionally the powers of the Central Government in the matter of land reforms are limited. Historically the land system in India is an organic growth of customary laws extending over centuries. There is a diversity in land tenures ranging from fairly dynamic and progressive ones to archaic and feudal. In particular, the land system in the territories which were formerly parts of the princely states had failed to keep pace with modern ideas. In the circumstances, it is neither possible nor wise to enforce any rigid pattern all over the country. The Central Government have constituted a Central Committee for Land Reforms to co-ordinate the progress of land reforms and to advise the State Governments on the land reforms proposals. Legislative measures of the State Governments before they become law are generally sent to the Central Committee which, after scrutiny, tenders its advice to the State Governments. If necessary, the representatives of the

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State Government are sent for personal discussion. The approach of the Central Committee is one of persuasion and not of imposition. It must be realised that any attempt to force the views of the Centre will give rise to greater resistance on the part of the State Governments who are responsible to their own legislatures. Nonetheless, the broad features of the land legislation must conform to the general pattern laid down for the country. In this, I am glad to inform the House that the Central Committee has succeeded to a large extent.

The broad features of the land reform under the first Five-Year Plan may be stated to be:

- (i) Abolition of intermediaries;
- (ii) Tenancy reforms;
- (iii) Ceiling on holdings; and
- (iv) Reorganisation of agriculture.

The decision to abolish the intermediaries had been taken by a number of States before the planning started. During the plan period the process has been expedited. Intermediaries have been abolished, or necessary legislations for abolition passed in most of the States. In some territories, such as Travancore-Cochin and Kutch, the Bills have either been introduced or are in the drafting stage. There are only small pockets left in respect of which legislative measures have to be undertaken. Wherever intermediaries have been abolished, the tiller of the soil has generally come in direct contact with the State. If the term "intermediary" in the abolition laws had been used in the literal sense, meaning the middle men between the State and the tiller of the soil as in the case of Uttar Pradesh, the problem of tenancy would have been very much simplified. Full ownership rights or security of tenure would have flowed directly from the creation of direct relationship between the State and the tiller

of the soil. The Intermediary Abolition Laws were, however, not considered necessary for the ryotwari areas. In some cases there are sub-tenants holding from tenants. The problems in such cases are: how are the rights of the landowners—and in this I include the tenant—and their tenants, which will also include the sub-tenants of the tenants, to be adjusted, to what extent the landowner should be allowed to resume land from the tenant; what should happen to evicted tenants; what are to be the rights of the tenant in land which remains with him?

The States have followed different policies in laying down the limits of resumable area and conditions of resumption. For instance, in the Punjab a landowner is entitled to resume up to 30 standard acres of land provided his tenant is left with a minimum of 5 standard acres, or given an alternative holding of five standard acres. In Hyderabad, the landowner can resume up to 3 family holdings provided the tenant is left with at least one basic holding. If it is not possible to leave one basic holding with the tenant, the landowner can resume only half the area held by the tenant, but if the landowner owns a basic holding or less, he may resume the entire area. In Rajasthan, the landowner can resume up to the prescribed area provided the tenant is left with the minimum holding with a net annual income of Rs. 1,200. But the underlying principle in all the laws is that the tenant should not, except in rare cases, be deprived of all his land and so far as possible he should be left with a basic holding. In land outside the resumption limit, considerable progress has been made in the conferment of security on tenants in the States of Bombay, Orissa, Punjab, Hyderabad, PEPSU, Saurashtra, Himachal Pradesh and Kutch. Other States, namely, Andhra, Assam, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, West Bengal, Mysore and Travancore-Cochin are being urged to take action for conferring security of tenancy.

The Planning Commission was of the opinion that generally the rent should not exceed $1/4$ th or $1/5$ th of the produce. In Assam, Bombay, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Madras, Uttar Pradesh, Hyderabad, Rajasthan, Mysore, Travancore-Cochin, Ajmer, Delhi, Himachal Pradesh and Vindhya Pradesh rents have been accordingly reduced. In Punjab and PEPSU the maximum rent prescribed is $1/3$ rd of the produce. In other States where rents have not been reduced to the level laid down in the First Five Year Plan, the State Governments are being urged to take action to bring the rents in conformity with those recommendations. Tenants have been given the rights to acquire ownership on payment of price in instalments in Bombay, Punjab, Hyderabad, Rajasthan and Himachal Pradesh. In some of the States the price to be paid by the tenant is a multiple of the land revenue or net profits. In others, it is a portion of the market price. The Panel of Land Reform appointed by the Planning Commission recently went into the question of tenancy reforms and has appointed a Tenancy Reforms Committee which will assess the work so far done and suggest measures for the Second Plan.

The first Five Year Plan has accepted the principle of an absolute limit being imposed on individual holdings. It has further laid down "that as a practical approach to the problem of large individual holdings, it would be best to divide substantial farms which are directly managed by their owners into two groups, namely, those which are so efficiently managed that their break-up would lead to a fall in production, and those which do not meet this test. For the latter category, the land management legislation should give to the appropriate authority the right to take over for the purpose of management". The Planning Commission had further recommended that before finally working out the policy about ceiling, the State Governments should undertake a census of the cultivatory holdings in order to obtain

data regarding the size and distribution of holding and areas under cultivators and owners and areas leased to tenants. Census work has been undertaken in all the States except West Bengal, Assam, Uttar Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir and 12 States have already sent their reports. Meanwhile, Punjab, Jammu and Kashmir, Hyderabad and Himachal Pradesh have already imposed ceilings on the existing holdings. In Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Bharat, Saurashtra and Delhi, ceilings have been imposed on the future acquisition of land. Assam, Hyderabad, Ajmer and West Bengal have prescribed the area which an intermediary will be entitled to retain after the abolition of intermediaries. The Panel of Land Reforms has appointed another Committee which will consider the question of the ceiling and floors of holdings. Final decision on ceiling will be taken after the census is completed and the Committee has reported.

While the State Governments have considerable achievement to their credit in the abolition of intermediaries and have done good work in tenancy reforms and imposing ceilings, I regret to say that much has not been done in the reorganisation of agriculture. In the background of the general picture of our countryside as "one of numerous small holdings, a large portion of them uneconomic, a small number of middle peasants and a sprinkling of substantial owners", the development of co-operative farming among small and middle owners deserves highest priority. We asked the State Governments to encourage cooperative farming by giving preference in the grant of Grow More Food assistance, remission of land revenue and taxes, giving of technical advice, financial assistance, etc. The societies were also to be given priority in the allotment of reclaimed waste lands, supply of water, grant of loans and the like. A provision of Rs. 40 lakhs was made in the First Plan period for providing assistance to States to undertake experiments in cooperative

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farming. Very few States have, however, been able to formulate any schemes. Recently, the Programme Evaluation Organisation of the Planning Commission has started studies of the working of selected cooperative farming societies in order to evolve a pattern for the establishment of such societies on a large scale. A Committee appointed by the Panel on Land Reforms is also examining the land management legislation, co-operative farming and co-operative village management. Some success has been achieved in the consolidation and work has started in a number of States, for example, Bombay, Punjab, U.P., etc., and more are undertaking the requisite legislation.

It is hoped that the work of consolidation will receive considerable impetus in the Second Plan period.

It should not be forgotten that of all the works of land reform in hand, the re-organisation of agriculture is the most difficult. The Indian farmer, as the farmer in other parts of the world, is highly individualistic in his outlook. An understanding of the co-operative principles, proper leadership and trained personnel have also been lacking in the countryside. But our resolve to implement the recommendations of the Rural Credit Survey Committee and to create proper conditions for the understanding and working of co-operative principles in a big way will, I hope, create proper climate for co-operative farming societies to grow.

With these observations, I commend the motion for the consideration of the House.

श्री विभूति मिश्र (सारन व चम्पारन) : क्या इस स्टेटमेंट की प्रतिलिपियां हम लोगों को भी दी जायेंगी ?

Shri A. P. Jain: It will be circulated.

ठाकुर युगल किशोर सिंह (मुजफ्फरपुर उत्तर पश्चिम) : अभी मंत्री महोदय ने

बतलाया है कि उन्होंने ने आल इंडिया कोषा-परेटिव यूनियन की सारी सिफारिशों को मान लिया है। मैं साफ तौर से जानना चाहता हूँ कि उसकी जो चार सिफारिशें हैं जिनमें बतलाया गया है कि : १. स्टेट बैंक के लैबिल पर गवर्नमेंट के तीन नामिनी मनोनीत किये जायेंगे, २. मनेजर के एपाइंटमेंट में श्री इंटरनल एडमिनिस्ट्रेशन में कोई भी इंटरफरेस नहीं होगा, ३. डिस्ट्रिक्ट बैंक में कोई भी नामिनी स्टेट बैंक की तरफ से नहीं किये जायेंगे, और ४.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member is making a speech.

ठाकुर युगल किशोर सिंह : क्या इन बातों को सरकार ने स्वीकार कर लिया है ?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: यह ब्राप प्रासिदर में पूछ सकते हैं।

Motion moved:

"That the economic policy of the Government of India with special reference to agriculture, land and rural credit be taken into consideration."

Now, there are a number of amendments that have been tabled. All of them are motions for substitution. With regard to some motions standing in the name of Shri V. P. Nayar, Shri N. B. Chowdhury and Shri S. L. Saksena they not only want to add something, but they also want that—as for instance in the motion standing in the name of Shri V. P. Nayar and others, No. 11—the Government should immediately stop by legislation all ejectments of cultivators of waste lands and forest lands; give ownership to such occupants, so on and so forth. These are all matters which have to be taken up or legislated upon by State Governments in the State legislatures.

Now, the Business Advisory Committee has also given an indication as to what ought to be the scope of the discussion on this. Generally the Central Government has no direct relationship with agriculture or distribution of land. The report of the

Business Advisory Committee is given in Bulletin—Part II dated 19th September, 1955. I believe hon. Members have already got it and this was extracted and included in the Bulletin for the purpose of drawing the attention of the Members. If they have not got the Bulletin before them I will read one or two paragraphs from that. It says:

“The main purpose of the debate as far as economic policy relating to agricultural land is concerned should be to provide an opportunity to review broadly the progress of land reforms and to find out to what extent the two objectives of social justice and increase in productivity have been fulfilled. In particular, attention should be focussed on the following points:

(i) Is the pattern of land ownership and use more equitable and/or conducive to greater efficiency? What action has been taken in implementing the policy of imposition of ceilings on individual ownership and cultivation?

(ii) To what extent has the ideal of ‘land to the tiller’ been realised? If the transition from tenancy to ownership is not likely to be achieved in one sweep and tenancy on a significant scale is likely to continue for some time, to what extent the tenancy legislation has been able to provide—(a) security of tenure and (b) reduction in rents to the existing tenants and sub-tenants?

(iii) What steps have been taken to implement the Planning Commission's recommendations regarding co-operative farming and co-operative village management?

As regards the other aspects of the debate, namely, economic policy of the Government relating to

Rural Credit, the debate should provide an opportunity—

(i) to review the important recommendations of the Rural Credit Survey and the action taken by Government thereon;

(ii) to ascertain the time schedule for implementing the various recommendations; and

(iii) to discuss the question of State's participation, regulation and control of the co-operative movement and the reaction of the co-operative movement thereto.”

These are the broad details or, at any rate, some of the indications that were given by the Business Advisory Committee; that is, in general, how far the recommendations of the Rural Credit Survey Committee have been implemented etc.

Shri N. B. Chowdhury (Ghatal): The outline which you have read includes all these items—tenancy, credit etc.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I am coming to that. We cannot add anything here. The general policy may be discussed but to say that the Government should undertake legislation on distribution of land, imposing ceiling etc., is entirely a State subject. In so far as those directions are contained in any of these motions to that extent those motions are out of order and barring those portions the rest of the portion will be admitted. If a motion contains only recommendations that these steps are to be taken then the Members concerned should go and ask their friends in the local legislatures to adopt that policy. Now, Shri A. K. Gopalan.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh (Shahabad South): Sir, first the motions may be moved.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Yes, we may take up the substitute motions first. Those hon. Members who want to move their motions may move them now.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: I beg to move:

That for the original motion, the following be substituted:

"This House having considered the economic policy of the Government of India with special reference to Agriculture, Land and Rural Credit, while appreciating the progress so far made, recommends that the Government should forthwith formulate a land reform programme and take suitable steps for the rapid implementation of land reform and rural credit programmes."

✓ **Shri Lakshmayya (Anantapur):** I beg to move:

That for the original motion, the following be substituted:

"This House having considered the economic policy of the Government of India with special reference to Agriculture, Land and Rural Credit, while appreciating the policy of the Government for the progress achieved in the food production so far in the country recommends that the Government should forthwith take up the land reform scheme with the object of increased production and take suitable steps and formulate sound measures to implement the recommendations of the report of the Rural Credit Survey in regard to easy credit facilities in rural areas, warehousing etc. so as to improve the present conditions of the farmers and agricultural labourers, and raise their purchasing power and living standard and maintain the present tempo of production."

Shri Bogawat (Ahmednagar South): I beg to move:

That for the original motion, the following be substituted:

"This House having considered the economic policy of the Government of India with special reference to Agriculture, Land and

Rural Credit, while appreciating the progress so far made, recommends that the Government should forthwith decide and implement land reform as well as rural credit programmes."

Shri S. N. Das: Sir, I want to move my substitute motion but by your leave I want to make a slight change in it because after hearing the speech of the hon. Minister.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I will see to that when the motion is put to vote—I may allow or may not allow. In the meanwhile let the hon. Member circulate his revised motion. Tomorrow also we are continuing this debate.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: The amendment made in the original motion will automatically be made in the substitute motions also.

Shri S. N. Das: I beg to move:

That for the original motion, the following be substituted:

"This House having considered the economic policy of the Government of India with special reference to Agriculture, Land and Rural Credit, while appreciating the progress so far made with regard to land reforms regrets that sufficient attention has not been given to the problems of rural credit, specially credit for agriculture and cottage industries".

Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad (Purnea cum Santal Parganas): I beg to move:

That for the original motion, the following be substituted:

"This House having considered the economic policy of the Government of India with special reference to Agriculture, Land and Rural Credit, is of the opinion that the targets fixed in the First Five Year Plan for land reform and rural credit have not yet been achieved and therefore recommends to the Government that suitable steps be taken for the

rapid implementation of the same."

Shri N. M. Lingam (Coimbatore): I beg to move:

That for the original motion, the following be substituted:

"This House having considered the economic policy of the Government of India with special reference to Agriculture, Land and Rural Credit, while approving of the policy is of the opinion—

(i) that the policy has resulted in setting in motion a peaceful agrarian revolution in the country in tune with the objective of a socialistic pattern of society;

(ii) that the pattern of land distribution should have regard to greater efficiency, production and security of tenure with ultimate ownership of land to the tiller; and

(iii) that to this end the recommendations of the Rural Credit Survey in regard to rural credit and strengthening the co-operative movement by State participation should be implemented as early as possible.

This House also notes the significant contribution made by the Bhoodan Movement towards the furtherance of Government's land policy."

Shri G. L. Chaudhary (Shahjahanpur Dist.—North cum Kheri—East-Reserved-Sch. Castes): I beg to move:

That for the original motion, the following be substituted:

"This House having considered the economic policy of the Government of India with special reference to Agriculture, Land and Rural Credit, while appreciating the progress so far made, recommends to the Government to expedite the work of land reforms."

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Now, Shri V. P. Nayar.

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Shri V. P. Nayar (Chirayinkil): I would like to move my substitute motion.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: His motion reads like this:

"This House having considered the economic policy of the Government of India with special reference to Agriculture, Land and Rural Credit, recommends that the Government should—

(a) immediately stop by legislation all ejections of cultivators of waste lands and forest lands;
and so on"

I think he must go to the State legislature for all these things.

Shri V. P. Nayar: I say that we should recommend to the State Government.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It reads like this:

"This House having considered the economic policy of the Government of India with special reference to Agriculture, Land and Rural Credit, recommends that the Government.

—that means, the Government of India—
...should—

(a) immediately stop by legislation all ejections of cultivators of waste lands and forest lands;....."

This Government has no right to say so.

Shri V. P. Nayar: Why?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: How many times have I to state this is a State subject? He has stated "provide for increased rural credit and open warehousing godowns". So, some of them may be allowed. (a) and (b) goes. (c) is "cancel all penalties imposed on so-called wrongful occupation." That goes. (d) is about the distribution of waste lands. That goes. (e), (f) and (g) also go. (h) will stand. (i) goes. (j) also will stand.

Shri V. P. Nayyar: I beg to move:

That for the original motion, the following be substituted:

"This House having considered the economic policy of the Government of India with special reference to Agriculture, Land and Rural Credit, recommends that the Government should—

(a) lay down fool-proof measures controlling exorbitant interests on rural credit; and

(b) provide for increased rural credit and open warehousing godowns at all important centres of business."

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I now come to Mr. N. B. Chowdhury's motion, it will stand as it is.

Shri N. B. Chowdhury: I beg to move:

That for the original motion, the following be substituted:

"This House having considered the economic policy of the Government of India with special reference to Agriculture, Land and Rural Credit, regrets—

(i) that due and effective steps have not been taken to realise the ideal of 'land to the tiller' by imposition of proper ceilings on individual ownership and cultivation, by a suitable programme of redistribution of lands including waste lands gratis by providing security of tenure and effecting reduction in rents realised from the existing tenants and sub-tenants;

(ii) that legislation in respect of co-operative farming has been made in a haphazard manner without due regard to its probable effect on the poorer tenants in the absence of a suitable programme of redistribution of land;

(iii) that the objective of social justice has not been attained due to the Government's policy of paying a huge amount of compensation to the big landlords and demanding the market value of lands from the actual cultivators thereof for the acquisition of permanent occupancy or ownership rights;

(iv) that the steps taken uptill now to provide credit facilities to the peasants are utterly inadequate;

(v) that the Government have failed to evolve a proper price policy to ensure fair and economic price to the growers of various agricultural produce;

(vi) that the peasants have been hit hard by the high rates of rent, irrigation charges, betterment levy etc.; and

(vii) that in formulating Government's basic economic policy the inseparable connection between industrial development on the one hand and the problems of land distribution stopping evictions, rural credit, conditions of tenants and agricultural labourers, purchasing power of the peasantry etc. on the other hand has not been given due consideration."

Shri Natawadkar: (West Khadesh—Reserved—Sch. Tribes): I beg to move:

That for the original motion, the following be substituted:

"This House having considered the economic policy of the Government of India with special reference to Agriculture, Land and Rural Credit, while appreciating the progress so far made recommends that the Government should forthwith formulate a land reform programme and take suitable steps for the rapid implementation of land reform with special emphasis on distribution

of land to the members of Scheduled Tribes who are mainly agriculturists and agricultural labourers."

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I will take up the next motion No. 14. It reads:

"...recommends that a socio-economic survey of the Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Areas including communications in different States be conducted by a Committee...."

All right, I allow it.

Shri Natawadkar: That for the original motion, the following be substituted:

"This House having considered the economic policy of the Government of India with special reference to Agriculture, Land and Rural Credit, while appreciating the steps taken by the Government, recommends that a socio-economic survey of the Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Areas including communications in different States be conducted by a Committee appointed by Central Government consisting of social workers and members of Parliament."

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The next motion is by Shri Rajabhoj. Shri Rajabhoj is not here. So, it will stand over.

Shri Sivamurthi Swami (Kushtagi): I beg to move:

That for the original motion, the following be substituted:

"This House having considered the economic policy of the Government of India with special reference to Agriculture, Land and Rural Credit, is of the opinion that—

(i) the Government of India has failed to introduce an uniform policy with regard to agricultural Lands throughout the country:

(ii) the Government of India is too slow to implement the recommendations of Rural Credit Survey Report by the Committee of the Reserve Bank;

(iii) the present policy of the Government has failed to encourage and develop the co-operative organisations in rural areas to increase adequately the credit facilities for the village population in the country; and

(iv) the Government has failed to reserve some lands in the villages for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes to improve the economic condition of these unfortunate brothers in rural areas."

Shri S. C. Deb (Cacher Lushai Hills): I beg to move:

That for the original motion, the following be substituted:

"This House having considered the economic policy of the Government of India with special reference to Agriculture, Land and Rural Credit, while appreciating the progress so far made, is of the opinion that Government should, at once, give concrete shape to land reforms programme keeping in view the rural credit and co-operation aspect of the problem."

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The next motion is by Shri Boovaraghasamy. Is he here? He is not here. Hon. Members who are sitting by the side must help the Chair by saying "No." The next motion is No. 19.

Thakur Jugal Kishore Sinha: I beg to move:

That for the original motion, the following be substituted:

"This House having considered the economic policy of the Government of India with special reference to Agriculture, Land and

[Thakur Jugal Kishore Sinha]

Rural Credit, is of the opinion that with a view to ensure more production agricultural land should be equitably distributed and full patronage and priority should be given to the Co-operative Organisations in various agricultural and industrial sectors without disturbing their democratic character by foisting Government nominees on their Committees of management and using any power to revise their decisions."

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The next motion is by Shri Shibbanlal Saksena. It reads: "... (i) that the Government should redistribute land in every village....". This House can recommend to this (Central) Government and not to the State Government. It will not be proper to the House to recommend to the State Government because it is a State subject. I won't allow it. The second item reads: "(ii) that the Government should encourage cultivation by forming mutual aid teams....". I allow it. Item (iii) goes. Item (iv) reads: "(iv) that all un-economic holdings be rent free;" That goes. Item (v) reads: "(v) that community projects may be started in every village.....". That is all right. Item (vi) reads: "that village co-operatives may be formed and the necessary rural credit to meet all their needs may be provided by the Government....". The Central Government has nothing to do with it. That goes. That rest of the items remain. So, items (i), (iii), (iv) and (vi) are ruled out. The others stand.

Shri Shibbanlal Saksena: I beg to move:

That for the original motion, the following be substituted:

"This House having considered the economic policy of the Government of India with special reference to Agriculture, Land and Rural Credit, recommends—

(i) that the Government should encourage cultivation by

forming mutual aid teams, which may give place to co-operative and collective farming and ultimate socialisation of land;

(ii) that community projects may be started in every village before the expiry of the First Five Year Plan and planned reconstruction of rural houses after redistribution of land, may be undertaken;

(iii) that in cities where peasants come to market their grain and other produce, peasant homes may be opened where provision is made for their stay and the stay of their carts and animals; and sale of their produce through co-operatives so that the present exploitation may stop and the State Bank may provide adequate rural credit to help the transaction of co-operative societies in these peasant homes;

(iv) that model farms to translate results of latest agricultural research into practice and to acquaint farmers with them may be established in every community project centre;

(v) that arrangements to provide good seeds, fertilisers and farming implements may also be made by village co-operative societies; and

(vi) that ponds, wells and other minor irrigation projects may be subsidised by these co-operatives where there are no irrigation facilities available."

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Now Mr. Gopalan will speak both on the original motion as also on the amendments.

श्री पी०एन० राजमोहन (शोलापुर-रहित अनुसूचित जातियाँ) मैं अपने १५ नम्बर के अमेंडमेंट को मूव करना चाहता हूँ ।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : आप इतनी देर से आये, इसलिए मैं आधा एलाऊ करूँगा ।

Shri S. S. More (Sholapur): Vertical half.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Amendment No. 15 reads:

"....(i) that the Government should introduce the policy with regard to land reform so that Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes can get lands for their livelihood"

It stands,

Shri P. N. Rajabhoj: I beg to move: That for the original motion, the following be substituted:

"This House having considered the economic policy of the Government of India with special reference to Agriculture, Land and Rural Credit, is of the opinion—

(i) that the Government should introduce the policy with regard to land reform so that Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes can get lands for their livelihood and help the co-operative farming organisations of their own to improve the economic condition of these down-trodden population of the country;

(ii) that the Government should provide credit facilities on an extensive scale to the rural people in general and particularly the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for the development of their occupation; and

(iii) that a Committee should be appointed to recommend to the Government with regard to the solution of problem of the landless labourers, particularly of the Scheduled Castes."

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: All these amendments are now before the House.

Shri A. M. Thomas (Ernakulam): Are you fixing any time limit for speeches?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Yes. I will allot 20 minutes for spokesmen of each party and 15 minutes for others.

Then, as we go on, possibly the 15 minutes will have to be cut down. In no case will this time limit of 15 or 20 minutes be exceeded.

Shri A. K. Gopalan (Cannanore): First of all I submit that the spokesmen of the party may require a little more time because this is a very important subject and we have to make certain proposals regarding land reform, tenancy etc.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: There are as many as six spokesmen. Six into half will be three. Out of ten hours—we started at 1.45—we have spent an hour and a quarter. All right. I will allow more time but not exceeding 30 minutes.

Shri S. N. Das: There should be no discrimination. There should be equality of opportunity.

Shri Bogawat: No special time should be given to any particular party.

Shri A. K. Gopalan: I am glad that we have been given an opportunity to discuss this very important question especially at a time when the Government is discussing the Second Five Year Plan. The Second Five Year Plan is already on the anvil. The main objectives of the Second Five Year Plan are the rapid industrialisation, increase in the standard of living and also increase in the national income. Industrial development must have a firm footing and industrial development can have a firm footing only if we can successfully solve the land problem releasing the productive forces and create a solid internal market. Behind the various systems of land tenures as well as the agrarian conditions prevalent in different States, the agrarian economy of India today presents a picture of slow increase in productivity. The hon. Minister has given us a picture about the production and also about some of the reforms that have been introduced and also some of the other reforms and other proposals that the

[Shri A. K. Gopalan]

Government is going to make in the near future.

3 P.M.

I will now show the other side of the picture. Whatever have been done by the Government and whatever may be the intentions of the Government, as far as rural credit and tenancy reforms are concerned I will show what is actually happening. That is what I want to show. I want to show what actually has happened in States where this policy has been carried out and how the landless poor peasants have not been benefited by it. There is more production; it is true. But there is more production without more purchasing power or more money. There is land reform, but the lands are not being given to the landless poor in the country.

[PANDIT THAKUR DAS BHARGAVA in the Chair]

There is tenancy reform; but there is no security of tenure. There is rural credit, but with no credit to the needy and the poor. When we speak of the co-operative system and other systems in the country, perhaps they may not be responsible for the agricultural labourers and the landless peasants not being able to get money, but whatever it is, that is the situation in the country today and I especially request the Minister to see how the tenancy reforms and other things are actually worked in this country, so that he may be able to rectify the defects. I shall quote from the Agricultural Labour Enquiry Committee's report which shows the position of agrarian economy in the country today:

"50 per cent. of the peasant families hold below 5 acres of land; 30 per cent. of the rural families are agricultural workers and 71 per cent. of them are without any land. In South India, 50 per cent. of the rural families are agricultural labourers. There

are 35 million agricultural workers of which 85 per cent. are casual and only 15 per cent. are regular employees. Half the population in the villages are landless and are unemployed for half the year."

That is the position of the peasant in Indian politics today.

First of all, I will take the abolition of statutory landlordism. Distribution of land is the key slogan of any agrarian reform. If that is admitted, then naturally we have to see whether the key slogan, i.e., distribution of land, has been achieved. What was the result of the abolition of landlordism? The first thing is that it is not abolition of landlordism, because there is no distribution of the land. It is either purchasing the land or transferring the land; it is only a small strata of the upper class that had been benefited by buying the land from the zamindars. Not only that; tax burden has been imposed on the peasantry in the name of abolition of landlordism. In some places where there has been abolition of zamindari, there are thousands and thousands of acres of land in the hands of the zamindars. For example, in Andhra where there is abolition of the zamindari system, the Rajah of Challpalli has got 17,000 acres of land in spite of the fact that the zamindari system is abolished. There are many more Rajahs and zamindars in other places, where also zamindari is abolished, having thousands and thousands of acres of land they make wrong entries and in the name of private lands, they have these lands. What is the result of this abolition of landlordism? The first thing is that land is not given to the tiller of the soil for whom the reform is intended. As far as the Government's figures are concerned, only 7 per cent. of the peasantry had been able to purchase the land. The second thing is payment of huge sums of money as compensation, when there is lack of money for national reconstruction. As far as

land reform is concerned, I have only to point out that the first thing is that it must be done without compensation and the important principle must be the distribution of the land to the agricultural labourers and the landless peasants. At the same time, as far as small owners of land are concerned, they must be given some relief. If land is taken from small owners of lands, they must be given some relief. Therefore, it must be a question of distribution and it must not be a question of purchasing the land or the land being transferred from one hand to so many other hands.

I now come to tenancy reforms. I do not want to enter into details about every tenancy reform in every State. But what is the result of these tenancy reforms? Every tenancy law passed in recent times gives the right to the landlord to resume the land from the tenant for his personal cultivation. The land-owner can resume the land, as the Minister has pointed out, upto 3 family holdings in Hyderabad, upto 50 acres in Bombay and upto 30 to 50 standard acres in Punjab. What has happened in Madras? The announcement of the Government before that it was going to pass the Malabar Tenancy Act was a call to the landlords to see that tenants were evicted. Before the tenancy legislation was passed, thousands of peasants had lost their land and they had been evicted from the land. So, there is no security of tenancy, in spite of the tenancy reforms. I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to some facts published in the *A.I.C.C. Economic Review* about Hyderabad. The Special Land Reforms Officer of the Hyderabad State—an I.A.S. officer—has given us some facts which show how the tenancy reform has been worked in Hyderabad and with what result. There was an enquiry into the eviction of protected tenants in Hyderabad. As far as protected tenants are concerned, I want to point out that there is difference between the protected and the tenant-at-will. About 75 per cent. of the protected tenants had been evicted from the land after the

tenancy legislation. As far as the tenants-at-will are concerned, there is no question about them. I will read from the *A.I.C.C. Economic Review* dated August 15, 1955:

“It was observed that the number of protected tenants actually cultivating the lands held in protected tenancies had decreased considerably as compared with the number of protected tenants recorded in the Tenancy Registers in 1951-52. In the 46 taluks in which Land Census has been completed in 1954-55, the total number of protected tenants found to be in possession of the lands at the time of the census was 90,279 as against 211,436 recorded in the Tenancy Registers. That means there was a decrease of about 57 per cent. The area held by the protected tenants in these taluks in 1951-52 was 26,75,960 compared with 10,95,319 acres in 1954-55. This means a decrease of 59 per cent.”

The most important thing is when the tenants have been evicted; I would like to draw the attention of the Minister to this most important thing:

“Table I indicates that in the Telangana villages dispossession commenced almost in the wake of the Act coming into force whereas in the Marathwada and Karnatak villages it commenced about a year later. However in both the areas nearly 72 per cent. of the evicted protected tenants had been dispossessed within the first 3 years after the Act came into force. Thereafter the rate of dispossession seems to have gone down some what rapidly so much so that the percentage of protected tenants evicted in 1954-55 of the total dispossessed during the last six years was only 7. This indicates that the optimum number of evictions occurred during 1952-53, i.e., in the third year of the implementation of the Act when a few radical amendments to

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the Tenancy Act were being actively discussed."

First of all when the Act was passed, a number of protected tenants were evicted. And, in the third year when a few radical amendments to the Act were discussed in the legislature, then about 50 to 60 per cent. of the evictions came. I want to show the way in which even the protected tenants had been evicted when the tenancy legislation was being passed. Whatever tenancy reform is discussed in the A.I.C.C., unless there is some legislation by which tenants cannot be evicted, there will be no benefit for the peasants. How is it that even after the passing of the legislation the tenants are evicted? I do not want to go into details, because that is happening even today. The report says that 81 per cent. of the eviction is due to surrender because of undue pressure and 10 per cent. is due to non-payment of rent. Only 10 per cent. of the eviction is due to non-payment of rent and 81 per cent. is due to undue pressure. As far as Malabar is concerned, I know of so many instances. I got some petitions also one month ago stating how in the open daylight a family of 3 women and two or three children who had been living in the place for years together--for 12 years--were pulled out of their house by the landlord by removing the house, which was a small hut and some banana trees were planted there. When the matter was reported to the police, they came after two days. The police first told them that if they had any claim, then they should go to the court and get a decree of the court. But the second day when a Local Assembly Member and some members of the District Board came, the Police changed their attitude.

It is not the only instance. Every day there are so many instances where on account of undue pressure of the landlords, they have to give up the land. The landlords go to the houses of the agricultural labourers and small peasants and threaten them. I

do not want to go into all the details. Then, the surrender takes place. It is definitely stated here that most of them left the land immediately they were asked to do so, and that a majority of the tenants did not want to estrange their relations with the landlords on whom they have to depend for so many things. Cases where no valid reasons were given were also there. Therefore, even if there is legislation today, as far as the executive is concerned, unless it is told that there is legislation, and that the onus is on the landlord, and unless there is a decree of the court nobody should be evicted, evictions will not stop. If this is not done, whatever reforms you may introduce will not help the people. Here is the report. If you think the report is correct, it says that 72 per cent. of the protected tenants in Hyderabad have been evicted. Protected tenants mean tenants who have some protection by legislation. There are then, tenants-at-will. They may have been occupying the lands for 12 or 13 years. They have absolutely no relief. Government is the biggest landlord. Government is also evicting the tenants. There are several cases where the Government is carrying out eviction. In Travancore-Cochin, Government has resorted to the eviction of tenants in thousands of acres of waste land because, they say, these lands are required for a new colonisation scheme. In Malabar there is an estate called Kothal. Thirty families have been living there for a number of years. They have been evicted without giving them other land. The peasants in Mudugal have been evicted. There was some resistance and *satyagraha*. It was only after that that they had been allowed to live there for some time. In Guntur and other districts of Andhra, there are cases of eviction from the lands in the hands of the Government. In Telangana, West Bengal and other places also there are such cases. Particularly in Maharashtra, barren plots of land were given by the Bombay Government under the grow more food campaign.

Those plots have been taken back. The peasants were mostly Adivasis. After some years, they wanted to take back the lands. They resisted. They were subjected to all sorts of repression. What is the policy of the Government? Government as the biggest landlord has to set up a model and show that where people had been occupying the land or cultivating the land for years together, there is no question of eviction at all. If I had the time, I would have shown how in many places peasants had to struggle and resort to some sort of *satyagraha* to retain the land which belonged to the Government. In Wynaad, 7500 families have been living and cultivating in 20,000 acres of land for so many years. Two years ago, they were given notice to go away from this land, which is called poromboke land. Then, on the agitation of the people, it was stopped. Again, one month ago, notice was given and all these 7,500 families were asked to go away. It was after some representation that the Government have said that they can be there for some time. After 6 months or 1 year, who knows, there may be eviction. If the families that are living in a plot of land and cultivating the land for so many years are evicted, if the tenancy reforms give the landlords, individuals or the State the power to evict these people from the land, there will be no incentive for the poor peasant to work. The peasants will not work if the landlords could evict them after so many years and after the passing of the tenancy legislation. My first request to the Minister is, even if nothing else is done, the Central Government must tell the State Governments that where the peasants have been cultivating the lands for a number of years together, they should not be evicted. If they are evicted, whatever legislation you may pass, the confidence of the people, that they will be protected, will not be there, because they will say, here is the Government doing this. When you say that all the fallow lands must be taken up by the tenants and there will be more production, they will not take them. This is happening in many

places. They are some rules and laws. The police does not know anything about the general policy. In the name of law and order, firing, lathi charges and other things take place. It is the first duty of the Government as the biggest landlord in the country to tell the State Governments and see that wherever, in any part of India, some families have been living on a land for years together, they are not evicted from the lands. This eviction must immediately be stopped. Unless the Government makes a law saying that there will be no eviction of whatever kind, unless these tenants are protected from eviction, any reform which the Government brings forward will not be effective at all. You pass an Ordinance and follow it up by legislation and say to the State Governments that with retrospective effect wherever tenants have been evicted, they should be brought back to their lands. This would give confidence to the people that the land belongs to the tiller. Ceiling on holdings and other questions depend on the policy that the land belongs to the tiller and not on the basis that the tiller will be sent out of the land.

The question of ceiling has been raised. I do not want to go into the details of it. Government is saying and claiming that a scheme of ceilings on holdings is the final solution of the land problem and that it will end landlordism. But, I find from the recommendations of the Planning Commission in respect of ceiling, if it is accepted as it is today, instead of solving the problem of landlordism and ending it, it will be a further attack on the peasantry. The reason why I say so is this. Firstly, this ceiling is used by the Government to allow the the landlords to resort to large-scale evictions. The landlords have no land. All the lands have gone to the tenants. Again if they say there is a ceiling, the landlords resort to large-scale eviction of peasants in the name of resuming the land for self cultivation. When

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the tenancy reform measure was passed, they said, for self cultivation they want land and they evicted the tenants from lands upto the ceiling fixed. Secondly, there is no effective prohibition on the transfer of the lands to relations or friends. The lands may be transferred to the relatives and friends of the landlords and they go on evicting the tenants saying that there is a ceiling and they want land upto that level. Thirdly, the ceiling is so fixed that it will allow the landlords to keep vast areas in their possession resulting in very little land being available for distribution to the peasants and labourers. When the tenancy reform legislation was being discussed the same thing happened. When the Government are thinking of ceiling properties in the name of associations and industrial properties, it is said, will be exempted. Even today the zamindars have begun to place lands in the names of associations and industrial concerns and in the name of capitalised farming, so that there may be no land available for distribution. What is the purpose of ceiling? Why do we say that there must be a ceiling? The purpose is that a man must only be given a certain amount of land and whatever the other land is in his possession, all that land must be taken for distribution. If the purpose of the ceiling is that all the available land in the country must be distributed, then drastic steps should be taken to see that enough of land is available for distribution, and all transfers of land to escape legislation must be banned and previous transfers also nullified, because if that is not done, they will say there are no lands with them and we will not get any land for distribution. Determination of the ceiling in different areas and actual taking over of the distribution of excess lands should be made through the elected peasants and agricultural labourers associations.

The next point is about social justice. It has been said that 31 per cent. in the country, and 50 per cent.

of the people in the South are agricultural labourers. A minimum wage has not been fixed for them in all the States. Not only that. Where minimum wages have been fixed, as for example in Madras, they are less than what they are actually getting today. Where they are getting Rs. 2 today, the minimum fixed by the Government Rs. 1-4-0. As I have no time, I am not able to quote the figures for the different States. Everybody knows that these agricultural labourers have no work for six months in the year. So, the main thing that the Government should do is to give them some work and to distribute land to them. Government figures show that there are 11,29,21,000 acres of uncultivated land excluding fallow lands, and 6,92,29,000 acres of fallow lands. Nearly half of this is in the hands of the Government and the rest in the hands of individual landlords and zamindars. To do social justice to the landless peasants and agricultural labourers, this waste and fallow land should be distributed to them so that it can be cultivated. It is not being done in several places. For instance in Malabar, even today after a struggle out of 20,000 acres of land only 500 acres have been given. It is very good, fertile land which Government got because there was only one landlord who died without any heir. In order to release the productive forces in the country, the Government should have, even before the First Five Year Plan began, announced their intention of distributing this land to those who want to cultivate it.

Under the Second Five Year Plan we want to increase the national income and the standard of living. If you can give two or three acres of fallow land each to the 31 per cent. of the rural population which has no work for six months in the year, the national income and the standard of living will be increased. I do not know what is the difficulty in giving this land. If Government gives the land first, others will then follow.

There are also some cases, not of

eviction, but some other form. In Travancore-Cochin there is a back-water area known as Kuttanad, where there are 20,000 acres of land. This year the landlord has not given them for cultivation. In Malabar also there is what is known as the Poonam land which is given to peasants every year for cultivation. We do not even know how much land there is because it has not been surveyed. One lakh of people are working in the Kuttanad area, and when the land was not given this year for cultivation, a representation was made to the Chief Minister, but he said: "There is no law by which I can force the landlord to give the land". So, if they want to keep the land fallow for one or two years, they can do it and the one lakh agricultural workers get no work for the whole year because traditionally they have been working there and they will not work in any other place. If the agricultural labourers want two annas more wages, they say: "We will teach you a lesson. We will not give the land". So, it is the duty of the Government to see that if the landlord does not give the land, Government can take it over and cultivate it.

Then I come to rural credit. The Rural Credit Survey Committee has pointed out in its report that the agricultural credit that is supplied today falls short of the required amount, is not of the right type, does not serve the right purpose and fails to go to the right people. The moneylender provides the cultivator with a small proportion of the credit required by him and he charges high rates of interest. So, the Committee points out that loans or advances should be made available, and that marketing is also essential.

So, two important things are necessary. One is solving the problem of the existing indebtedness which is of the order of Rs. 900 crores, whether by cancellation of the debts, or scaling down or postponement. Unless that is done, there is no question of improv-

ing the agrarian economy. The second one is the providing of cheap credit. Everybody knows that co-operative societies are in the hands of the rich people, the traders and others in the country and the ordinary man does not get any credit. So, I have to make some proposals, namely, adequate measures for control of money-lenders, control of the rate of interest, strict measures against illegal practices and cancellation of the old debts, and also scaling down of the debts of agricultural labourers, exemption of such peasantry as cannot bear the burden of the existing debts, establishment of Debt Conciliation Boards which should include the representatives of the peasants, and stoppage of attachment of houses, land and properties owned by the peasants. All this must be given effect to by necessary legislation. A moratorium should also be declared on rural indebtedness.

One word more. I want to draw attention to the Faizpur resolution of the Congress in regard to rural credit and other things. The resolution has said that rent and revenue should be reduced having regard to the present conditions, and that uneconomic holdings should be exempt; there should be fixity of tenancy with heritable rights, and most important of all, the crushing burden of rural debt should be removed. Debts which are beyond the capacity of the peasant to pay should be liquidated; a moratorium should be declared and steps should be taken to provide cheap credit facilities. Arrears of land revenue for the previous year should generally be wiped out. They should be recovered in the same manner as other debt and not by ejection. And finally, it says that there should be statutory provision for securing a living wage and suitable working conditions for the agricultural labourers. As far as these matters are concerned, as far as tenancy is concerned and as far as the question of tax is concerned, I would say, in short, that Government must take steps to implement the Faizpur Congress resolution before the

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Second Five Year Plan, in order that the agrarian economy in our country may improve.

Shri Boovaraghasamy (Perambalur): I was not in the House when the names of persons who had moved their substitute motions were called. I am very sorry I could not be present then. But may I request that substitute motion No. 18 standing in my name may also be taken as moved?

Shri Velayudhan: It was said earlier that it will be held over.

Mr. Chairman: Yes, it will be taken as moved.

Shri Boovaraghasamy: I beg to move:

That for the original motion, the following be substituted:

"This House having considered the economic policy of the Government of India with special reference to Agriculture, Land and Rural Credit, regrets—

(i) that early and effective steps have not been taken to distribute lands to the real tillers of the soil by implementing the agricultural Land reform policy;

(ii) that the steps taken till to provide credit facilities to the Agriculturists are quite inadequate for want of more funds wide publicity and proper representations for the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and the other Backward Class people in all credit societies; and

(iii) that proper and early steps are not taken by Government to secure reasonable prices to the Agricultural produces in proportion to the prices of the commodities other than Agricultural, which are differing from time to time."

Mr. Chairman: This amendment is also before the House.

Sardar Lal Singh (Ferozepur—Ludhiana): At the outset, I should

like to congratulate the Ministry of Agriculture on the highly satisfactory position that has been explained to us. It was really gratifying to see the programmes in various spheres that they have got in view.

I should like to mention that in dealing with our problems, we should draw from the experience of other countries: As they say, experience is an expensive school and wise men always try to benefit from other people's experience, their failures and successes, whereas unwise people insist on having their own experience. So, my attempt would be to show briefly how other progressive countries are tackling this problem, and what lesson we can draw from them.

The tenancy problem is not peculiar to India. Almost all the countries in the world have got to face it. Britain has an exceptionally high proportion of tenant farmers; about two-thirds of the occupiers of land are tenants, farming about two-thirds of the total cultivated area. In fact, there are certain parts of England where as much as seventy to eighty per cent of the total cultivated area is farmed by tenants. U.K. had to enact certain laws for the protection of tenants. It was in 1923 that they gave protection to the tenant by providing that a landlord could not eject a tenant without giving 12 months' notice, and that the tenant was entitled to compensation for any temporary or permanent improvement made by him on the land.

Then, in 1948 another Act was passed, which provided that a tenant could not be ejected without the consent of the Ministry of Agriculture. Even against the decision of the Ministry of Agriculture, an appeal could be filed before the Agricultural Land Tribunal. Only under certain conditions could a tenant be ejected. One was that the tenant had failed to maintain the prescribed standard of cultivation, and that a certificate of bad husbandry had been obtained from the appropriate authority.

Whereas the U.K. Government took various measures to give "stability" to the agricultural industry, so that the farmer could have 'reasonable award' for his enterprise, these Acts also gave power to Government to ensure certain standards of efficiency on the part of all concerned. For instance, in case of default, the Minister for Agriculture has power to dispossess any or all of them. In the case of the landlord, the dispossession can be by means of compulsory purchase of his land, i.e. in case the landlord does not keep his land in good condition, he can be dispossessed by compulsory purchase of his land. In the case of a tenant, it will be by ejection from the land and in the case of the owner-farmer, i.e. a farmer owing his own land, he could be forced to accept an approved tenant.

It is clear that the guiding principle, apart from social justice, is the utilisation of land in the best possible manner in the interests of the nation. I therefore submit that "fixity of tenure" in India should be accompanied by an equally strong measure which would compel the tenant to maintain prescribed standards of land husbandry efficiency. The mere slogan 'Land to the tiller' would not do, if national interests are to dominate our Plans.

A country which has just attained its freedom cannot afford to tolerate any sort of inefficiency on the part of any one. Efficiency must be insisted upon, whether it is a tenant or a landlord.

Even in the matter of 'Small Holdings Policy' whereby small farms were given by Government on lease as a measure of rehabilitation to retired soldiers and others unemployed, U.K. had come to certain definite conclusions. The first conclusion that should be of some interest to land reforms was that the future policy should be dominated more by agricultural rather than by social considerations as in the past. Secondly, it was not wise to break up well-run and economic farms, and it was important to maintain in the countryside a proper overall balance between the larger and

the smaller farms. Thirdly, all would be tenants must have sufficient agricultural experience to ensure that they will make a success in farming. This was necessary because due to lack of agricultural experience a good many of these tenants who were settled on farms proved an utter failure. Fourthly, since settling in farming occupation requires a good deal of working capital, besides a non-recurring expenditure, and since many farmers had failed because of this drawback, Government must ensure sufficient provision of funds, and also expect the would be tenant to produce at least 25 per cent of the working capital required. These conclusions are such over which our own land reformers also would do well to ponder.

Realising the fundamental truth that upon the prosperity of the agriculturist, depends the prosperity of the country, the U.K. Government took several measures to make farming more remunerative. For instance, the main pillars on which the British agricultural policy rests or for the matter of that, on which the policy of any advanced country should rest, are the "stability" of the agricultural industry, and also its "efficiency." While Government provides "stability" to agriculture by guaranteed prices and assured markets for produce, it also demands "efficiency" from the farmers. Not only are the farmers in U.K. assured guaranteed prices for their produce, but the prices are also fixed in advance, sometimes even four or five years in advance, to enable them to plan their cropping scheme on a long-term basis. The Australian Government, likewise, assured guaranteed prices to producers of butter, cheese, etc. in 1952 for a period of five years. The same is the case with the American and Canadian farmers also who are promised guaranteed prices for a number of years. I saw the same thing in Switzerland also, where crop prices are fixed on the basis of the cost of production plus a reasonable margin of profit. Since stability alone brought about by guaranteed prices and secured

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market is not enough, it is equally important to ensure that farming attains the highest degree of efficiency. This is achieved in the U.K. (as also done in some other countries) by two methods, firstly by compelling both the landlords and the tenants to maintain the prescribed standard of efficiency, and secondly, providing the farmers with necessary wherewithals, i.e., technical guidance and financial assistance, to enable them to attain the highest efficiency. U.K. introduced the system of guaranteed price as early as 1932, that is, more than 22 years back. In 1934, subsidy on cattle was also introduced, and in 1937 State aid was extended to oats and barley. The subsidy for potatoes was given at the flat rate of £ 10 per acre of potatoes grown. Minimum guaranteed prices for livestock and livestock products like butter, cheese and meat were announced in 1947 for a period of five years to come, which has since been extended. In short, it is since February 1945, that prices have been fixed in U.K. for almost all agricultural products in such a manner as to guarantee to the farmer an adequate return on his investment. In 1950-51, total food subsidy amounted to £410 million or roughly about Rs. 500 crores.

In Australia also, Government have been following this policy. In order to reduce the cost of production, the Government have not hesitated to subsidise farmers' requirements, that is, subsidising agricultural machinery, fertiliser, insecticides etc., and in order to enable the Australian products to sell in foreign markets, they have been subsidising the export. To give an apt illustration of how remunerative prices are fixed, I may mention that in fixing the price of sugar cane grown in Australia, Government took into consideration not only the usual expenses of farming, that is, of manure, seed, labour, irrigation etc. but they also allowed wages or salary to the owner of the farm or supervision charges, as also interest and depreciation on land, machinery etc. and inter-

est on working capital. Besides this, a profit of the order of about Rs. 12,000 to Rs. 15,000 for an average farm of 40 acres was allowed. Nor is the fixation of cane price left to the whims of government officials. They have got a high power "Price Fixation Board" which at present comprises no less a person than the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court as Chairman along with two representatives of the cane growers and sugar mills who decide all questions or all disputes between sugar mills and cane growers.

Further, Governments in all countries are encouraging and enabling the farmers to undertake Co-operative marketing and processing of raw materials, and I was very glad to hear from our hon. Minister that our Government have also got some such schemes. It will be interesting to mention that out of all the sugar mills in Queensland, as many as 50 per cent are co-operative sugar mills which are functioning properly and the whole capital, in the first instance, was subscribed by the Government. The cane cultivators had only to pay an anna, or even less than an anna, per maund of cane to meet the cost of factory. Similarly, the biggest fruit preservation or canning factory in Australia was actually put up by the Australian Government and then handed over to the fruit growers for canning of fruits.

As regards the U.S.A., credit facilities are available to American farmers for almost every conceivable purpose, whether it is loan for permanent improvement of land or loan for tube-wells, machinery, loan for growing crops or harvesting or loans against storage of produce. No farmer, howsoever humble and howsoever little property he may have to give as security, can have any difficulty in securing loans. An idea about credit facilities to farmers can be had from the fact that in January 1953, loans against land stood at about Rs. 3500 crores, in addition to about Rs. 2000

crores as loan on personal security. If I remember correctly, out of the total bank loans, the loans to farmers account for 43 per cent as against .09 per cent in India, that is, the American farmer gets Rs. 4300 for every Rs. 10,000 loaned by American banks as against Rs. 9 got by the Indian farmer from Indian banks.

Further, to maintain prices at remunerative level, Government readily purchase surplus produce. Some idea of the price support policy can be had from the fact that on June 30, 1955, the U.S. Government holdings of farm commodities had a cost value of over 4.5 million dollars and in addition, the Commodity Credit Corporation—CCC as it is called—had loans of more than 2 million dollars on farm crops. To give you an idea of the extent of support, I may mention that the price for white wheat—the kind of wheat which is meant for export to India—in Oregon State was \$2.37 per bushel and the export subsidy on it amounted 74 cents per bushel, which roughly amounted to one-third of the total price. Likewise, when the price of butter went down too low, the American Government, in pursuance of their "Price Support Policy" purchased butter at 64 cents a lb. and offered to other countries at only 37 to 41 cents a lb., which means a subsidy again amounting to more than one-third of the total price.

Sir, what has been the net result of this policy? We find that the standard of farming in America during the last thirty years has gone up. For instance, the output of each farm worker has increased by 240 per cent and the output of cows, hens and most farm animals has increased by about 50 per cent and the annual consumption, as also the purchasing power of the people has gone up greatly. I wish I had time to go into the details.....

Mr. Chairman: May I just warn the hon. Member that he has already taken about 17 minutes and he is still speaking about foreign countries. I

think he shall have something to contribute so far as our country is concerned.

Sardar Lal Singh, I shall now come to India.

Mr. Chairman: If he subsequently wants more time, I shall not be able to allow it. He can have half an hour in all.

Sardar Lal Singh: Yes. Now I come to India. Having got a glimpse of what is being done in other countries, let us now turn our attention to India. I have got before me the reports of the Board of Economic Enquiry, Punjab from 1926 up to 1950. They give some idea about the economics of Indian farming. I wish I had time to go into the details of these, but they bring out very clearly an important fact, that the income of even a peasant farmer who owns his own land, his own bullocks and who works on his own land, does not come to even as much in many cases as that of a permanent farm labourer in that very village. I could cite instance after instance. I have got here, for instance, the report of 1949-50; the return per family worker in the mountainous tracts is Re. 0-5-3 as against Re.0-14-1 in the case of a permanent farm labourer, in the sub-mountainous tracts, it is Re. 0-11-10 as against Rs. 1-3-0, in the Central districts, Rs. 1-1-1 as against Rs. 1-3-2. South Eastern districts: Re. 0-11-6 as against Rs. 1-8-10 in the case of permanent labourers, and so on and so forth. Time does not permit me to go into the details except to show that these surveys or investigations that had been carried out for the last thirty years by the Board of Economic Enquiry in Punjab show that agriculture in India is not at all a paying proposition and agriculturists are not getting even the ordinary wages that even permanent farm labourers get. Secondly, while a few of the big farmers who are running farms on a commercial basis may be making some money here and there, most of them who have to pay rent for land and

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have to engage hired labour do actually undergo a considerable loss.

In short, farming occupation in India is merely one of subsistence and requires to be made more remunerative. As regards credit facilities—leave alone easy credit on personal security or loan on his crops—the cultivator cannot get adequate loan even on the security of his land and even if obtained, he has to pay an abnormally high rate of interest. Credit facilities have, therefore, to be provided in India on a gigantic scale, and tinkering with the problem will not do. Easy machinery will have to be devised for receiving credit. As regards prices for his crops, the cultivator is now left to his fate. Even the law of “supply and demand” has been working more or less to his disadvantage, because when the ceiling prices were fixed, no floor prices were fixed, with the result that a farmer selling his produce at higher than the ceiling price was penalised, but when the price went too low, he was left in the lurch. The price of *gur* in early 1952 year went down as low as Rs. 5 against the control price of Rs. 20. The price support policy functioning in foreign countries for decades, requires therefore to be adopted forthwith in India and substantial amounts should be set aside for this purpose as done in the case of the C.C.C. in U.S.A. Our marketable surplus is not going to be too heavy to be beyond the financial capacity of our national Government. Our present rates under the price support policy for crops like maize, rice and bajra are too low and a mere eye-wash and not very helpful. The prices of crops should be based on their cost of production, and prices should be fixed for a number of years in advance to enable cultivators to have long term planning in regard to crop rotation, land improvement etc.

People often talk of intermediaries between Government and tenants but the havoc caused by intermediaries or middlemen between the grower and the consumer, especially in regard to fruits and vegetables, is too

great for words to describe. During my visit to Australia, two months back, I found government notifications requiring vegetable and fruit shops to prominently display certificates showing the prices paid to the grower. They were directed not to sell the products at higher than 33.3 per cent above the purchase price. What a contrast to the conditions in this country where, in the case of certain vegetables, the difference in prices of what the grower gets and what the consumer pays is of the order of 500 to 1000 per cent. The farm prices of onion and other vegetables have often gone down as low as a rupee a maund and I saw at Solon even tomatoes selling at Rs. 2 per maund, whereas the price in some cities was easily 8 or 10 times more.

In regard to fixation of cane and sugar prices in India, there is need for a statutory Price Fixation Board, a high power body more or less on the same lines as in Australia which should be above political or other influences. The significance of price fixation can be appreciated by the fact that a reduction of a mere one anna per maund in cane price means an additional profit of Rs. 2½ crores to the sugar mills. In 1952 the reduction was of the order of 9 annas per maund. Likewise every increase of one-tenth of one per cent in the recovery of sugar from cane, means an additional profit of one lakh of rupees and certain mills are getting a recovery of 1 or 1.3 per cent higher than that on which the sugar price was calculated. Such matters, involving crores of rupees, cannot be left to the whims of office people who are ever changing and who have no background of the intricate problems or any great knowledge of the industry. Further, the share of cane growers in the price of sugar from 1946 to 1952 when prices of cane and sugar were fixed by Government in full consultation with growers and sugar millers, varied from 65 to 70 per cent. There was no very serious complaint from any quarter and the sugar mills made a reasonable amount of profit.

But, now we find that the price has been reduced, that is the share of the cane growers has been suddenly reduced to 53-60 per cent. Similarly, a share in the excess profits made by the sugar mills during the last three years which was payable to the cane growers and which was promised by our Government has not yet been paid and still remains a distant dream.

Shri A. P. Jain: Not distant. Seventy-five per cent of it has been paid.

Sardar Lal Singh: I can send to the hon. Minister the representations that are received from various quarters and which have stated that the mills have avoided payment under one pretext or another. I shall be glad to forward these representations.

Shri A. P. Jain: I said 75 per cent has been paid and the dispute is about 25 per cent.

Sardar Lal Singh: Now, as regards land reforms, the findings of the Board of Economic Enquiry in the Punjab for over quarter of a century relating to economics of farming, have great lessons for us, only if we care to learn and shed our preconceived ideas. These Reports bring out clearly (1) that farming in India is not at all a paying proposition; even a peasant farmer in many years is not able to earn as much as a daily paid permanent labourer in the same village is able to do, (2) people who have to largely depend upon hired labour usually have to suffer loss unless their standard of farming is unusually high or they enjoy some special advantage and (3) well-to-do class of people have so far been attracted to buy lands, not because of profit in farming but, for leasing out lands to tenants at high rents mostly as exploitations of tenants. The land reforms in India should, therefore, primarily aim at (a) the prescribing of reasonable rent for land (b) fixity of tenure and compensation to tenants for labour and money spent for temporary or permanent improvement of land in the event of his ejection, (c) the creation of an independent land

tribunal to decide dispute arising from the above and (d) insisting upon both landlord and tenant and, in fact, also upon owner farmer, to maintain prescribed standard of farming i.e. a certain standard of efficiency in the larger interests of our nation. In the case of persons who are engaged in direct cultivation they should be left alone because the very economics of Indian farming would compel them to either modernise agriculture and raise the standard of farming or quit farming and sell or lease lands on terms prescribed by Government. In case they modernise their farms, such farms will become models for the people in that locality and these progressive farmers will naturally become the leaders in every kind of rural improvement. But, if they fail to come to the standard, they will naturally be forced to quit farming.

The over-enthusiasts of present day land reforms in India, in suggesting ceiling even on self cultivation, betray a woeful ignorance of the 'Economics of Indian farming'. Such proposals are fraught with most serious consequences. Firstly, it is preposterous to put a ceiling on one's capacity to work as implied in self cultivation; secondly, putting the ceiling at a low level would ruin all chances for men of intelligence, capital and enterprise to ever enter this profession which will doom every hope of modernisation of agriculture in India and will mean perpetual consignment of agriculture to the primitive stage. Agriculture will become the sole monopoly of illiterate, ignorant and poverty-stricken class of people for all times to come and it will be the most retrograde step. Thirdly, such a low ceiling, as is contemplated, will not bring even to the biggest farmer even as much income as a most ordinary man in subordinate service can get in the urban area. Accordingly ceiling on self-cultivation is bound to generate a bitter class hatred between ruralites and urbanites. It will be nothing short of fanaticism and height of discrimination between various classes, to

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allow one kind of economy to work in the rural area—(the socialistic pattern with vengeance)—and capitalistic economy in the urban area, (*Interruption*), i.e. legislating that not even the biggest man in the rural area should earn more than Rs. 100 or so per month or possess landed property worth more than a few thousand rupees but allowing freedom to people in the urban area to own any amount of property worth even crores or earn any amount of money.

Mr. Chairman: I think the hon. Member should conclude now.

Shri Asoka Mehta (Bhandara): I would like to compliment the Food and Agriculture Minister for the comprehensive review he has given us of the agricultural policy. We are happy to note that there is an increase in agricultural production as is shown in the statistical booklet that has been circulated to us and that there has also been a slight increase in the yield per acre. But, may I point out that our food consumption today is nowhere near what it was before the war and even with the increase in production of which the Food Minister is legitimately proud, it needs to be noted that we have a considerable leeway still to make up. May I further point out that I was surprised to find that the Food Minister has not given his attention to the very crucial question of marketable surplus? After all, we have to watch not merely the figures of food production but of marketable surplus. All countries that are in the throes of economic development have generally faced what is known as scissors' crisis. In China, today, informed people know that there is a growing problem of shortage of marketable surplus of food. In our country also, we have to see that in the next 5 or 10 years we shall not only have increasing food production but side by side with the various reforms that we are carrying out, we shall have the requisite surplus available. This is of paramount importance because our capacity for

deficit financing ultimately depends upon our capacity to mobilise the food surpluses from rural areas. How far this capacity is there, to what extent it has expended, to what extent the various changes that we are going to make, whether they be in the direction of land reforms or in the direction of providing rural credit, will have effect—we have constantly to watch their effects on the marketable surplus that is available. I would like the Food Minister in his concluding observations to tell us something about this because that was one of the desiderata in the opening speech that he made.

4 P.M.

He has outlined before us, as was done by the Planning Commission earlier, a four point programme of land reform. The first point on the programme is abolition of intermediaries. It has been fully or substantially carried out in fourteen States and partially implemented in some other States. It has been claimed that about 2.25 million intermediaries have been removed and over 160 million acres of land have been freed from intermediaries. This is undoubtedly an achievement of which one can legitimately be proud. But may I point out that this has been done by piling up a tremendous amount of cost of compensation, which is likely to run to anything above Rs. 500 crores? The effect of this is, as has been pointed out in this very valuable book published by the Indian National Congress on Land Reforms in India, that in Part A States, whereas Rs. 414 crores will have to be paid as compensation, the additional revenue of the State Government would be merely Rs. 18.52 crores, that is, a bare 4.71 per cent. of the total compensation payable. The result will be, as has been pointed out by Mr. Kenneth H. Parsons, who was asked by the Government of India to study the land reforms in India and submit his observations, that the "compensation at current values will load the present tenants with considerable debts". This

is the position as far as the intermediaries are concerned and it deserves very careful attention. It is no use being smug and satisfied because we have eliminated 2.25 million intermediaries and cleared 160 million acres of land. But the consequences of this reform have to be followed, and if that is done, I believe the Food Minister will realise that more remains to be done.

Even where the reforms have been considerable, there has been very slow progress in setting up revenue administration. I am glad to find that 14 States have already completed the census of land holdings, but what is found in the census of land holdings? Unless we have an adequate revenue administration so that we may be able to act upon the census, that we may be able to implement any policy on ceilings on holdings that we might decide upon, what is the good? This delay in building up a revenue administration is particularly important also because it affects our reforms as far as fixity of tenure and reduction of rent are concerned. Our friend, Shri Gopalan, read out to us extensively from the Economic Bulletin of the A.I.C.C. about the conditions prevailing in the Hyderabad State. I am sure that has happened there because there has not been an adequately strong revenue administration. As far as the reforms on fixity of tenure and reduction of rent are concerned, as the Food Minister pointed out, the Planning Commission had recommended that the rent should generally be one-fourth to one-fifth of the produce. But we find that in a large number of States, the rents are either not regulated or exceed one-third of the produce—in Andhra, Bihar, Madras, Madhya Pradesh, West Bengal, Punjab, PEPSU, Travancore-Cochin and some smaller States. It is nearly five years since this Plan was adopted by the Planning Commission and I do not understand what is coming in the way of reducing the rents to one-fourth or one-fifth of the produce. There is also no uniform legislation as far as security of tenure is concerned. The Food Minister told us that these

rents on land have grown up in a haphazard manner. I know they have grown up in a haphazard manner, but surely as far as clearing the jungle of tenancy is concerned, we want one simple type of tenancy where the security of tenure will be there, where the tenant will be fully protected. That kind of simplification should not be difficult. But we find that security of tenure is generally unsatisfactory in Assam, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, West Bengal, Mysore, and Travancore-Cochin, and tenants are generally unprotected in Andhra and Madras.

The question of landlords' right to resume personal cultivation is important. The Food Minister touched upon it. I am afraid he did not invite our attention to the fact that there seems to be a great amount of variation on what is personal cultivation. The time has come when the Planning Commission should lay down that there cannot be provincial or State variations on the definition of "personal cultivation", and what is the period during which resumption should be made. These are things on which a uniform policy should be necessary and possible. I am unable to understand why from State to State the definition of "personal cultivation" should vary, with the result that a considerable amount of avoidable hardship is being experienced by the tenants.

Then again, I would like to invite your attention to the position of rent received and paid by the cultivators. In the All India Rural Credit Survey, Volume I, that is the Survey Report, we find on page 89 that in Bombay the proportion of rent received by cultivators to rent paid by them was about 55 per cent. In Orissa, Vin-dhya Pradesh, Madras and Tripura, it was between 40 and 50 per cent and in West Bengal, Hyderabad and Rajasthan, between 30 and 40 per cent; in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar it was between 10 and 20 per cent and in Sirmoor district of Himachal Pradesh, PEPSU and Madhya Bharat, it was under 10 per cent. There is a very

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considerable amount of weight on the cultivator from the non-cultivator.

You must have noticed that one of the basic criticisms that the Rural Credit Survey Committee has to make of the rural conditions in India is what the Committee has described as the dimension of disadvantage, from which our rural economy suffers, and that is the urban pressure—the pressure of certain higher castes and higher classes in rural society who work in collaboration or in collusion with the urban economy. This dimension of disadvantage continues—it not only continues but it also deepens—because of the fact that even today with the tenancy reforms that are being put through, as I have read out to you from the Rural Credit Survey, in a large majority of States, if we compare the rent received with the rent paid by the cultivators, we find that the receipt forms a very small portion of what is being paid out.

The third point of the land reform programme is of ceiling and floor. Unfortunately, the full results of the census on land holdings are not available to us, but the Rural Credit Survey tells us that 10 per cent of the cultivators own about 30 per cent of land, and 30 per cent own 11 per cent of land. In the sample census that was carried out in the State of Bombay, we found that 41·9 per cent of cultivators had holdings upto 5 acres and the area of land occupied was 6·2 per cent, while 4·4 per cent of the cultivators owned 50 acres and above, occupying 34·2 per cent of the total area under cultivation. Therefore, from the limited figures that are available, we find that there is a wide disproportion and the question of redistribution of land needs to be taken up urgently. I know that it has been argued and many people have said that redistribution will result in further fragmentation. There is no doubt that such a tendency is there and it is an ineluctable tendency. I find from a United Nations publication on land reforms that in Japan

radical reforms were carried out about land redistribution. The effect was undoubtedly an increase in the smaller holdings. That is what we find in Japan where recently redistribution of land ownership has been extremely radical and has affected some owner-operated lands as well as lease-lands; the average farm area remained very small and the percentage of farms with fewer than 1·2 acres has increased from 34 per cent of the total number to 41 per cent. That has got to be met. This difficulty is there. It is inescapable; it has got to be overcome as it has been done in Mexico by pooling the small holdings together and giving them credit facilities and developing co-operative activities as far as possible.

It has been pointed out by Professor Gadgil that over half the cultivating families in India have farms which are very small and he has said that it is absolutely necessary that not only the small farms but the wider question of land redistribution should be taken up simultaneously. That is what he says in his speech delivered on the 26th December, 1954 at the Fifteenth Annual Conference of the Indian Society of Agricultural Economics. He says: "Therefore, for consolidation of fragmented holdings, for pooling together land included in uneconomic holdings and for utilizing surplus land available for redistribution in a similar manner, a general redistribution of land surface must be undertaken." So, it is the general redistribution. You have got to fix a ceiling and a floor. The land above the ceiling has got to be redistributed and the land under the floor has got to be pooled together. It is this kind of far-reaching plan of a general redistribution that needs to be undertaken. I was hoping that some kind of a target would be announced by the hon. Minister.

It has been suggested by various competent authorities that 30 per cent

of the land in our country which is under cultivation will have to be brought into co-operatives in the Second Five Year Plan if this idea of ceiling and floor has to be made a reality. But I find the hon. Minister is not prepared to give us any kind of a definite target about it.

Professor Gadgil has told us and it has been candidly accepted by the hon. Minister that in relation to land management we are following in this country today a policy mainly of drifting. He says that a programme of economic development requires more positive approach in respect of agricultural productive organisation units of land management.

We were told that various committees had been appointed and that these committees were expected to give their reports. We have known a number of committees in the past and very often reference of a subject to a committee is one of the ways of shelving it. May I point out that this whole question of village management is of primary importance today? The hon. Minister said that it was a stubborn problem. Unless we are prepared to tackle it all our efforts at land reform will come to naught.

The central or, I believe, the crucial part of the recommendations of the Planning Commission was the suggestion made about village management; they say:

"Broadly speaking, however, we envisage that the village panchayat should become the agency both for land reform and for land management in the village. In the first place it should be the body concerned with the management of land taken over from substantial owners and also of village waste lands. The leasing of lands by small and middle owners should also be done through the panchayat....."

So, the village, as the organ of land management is of fundamental importance. The village panchayat will not be able to play the part that we

want it to play perhaps till land reforms are pushed through. But the two things are inter-connected. We shall never be able to push through our land reforms without certain preliminaries. It should be possible only when we are prepared to endow these village committees with a considerable amount of authority. In Japan far-reaching and very radical reforms were carried out within a period of two years. That was done because in every village, elected committees were set up—committees consisting of the representatives of owners of present properties and landless tenants. It was through these committees that the entire problem of redistribution of land was carried out. It is these committees again that have undertaken the responsibility of management of land.

In our country, therefore, the most important question is not merely the outlining of policy on land reforms but also devising the instrument through which it has to be done. The only instrument that other countries of the world have been able to show us is some kind of land committees elected by the people themselves and the administration can come merely as a supporting instrument; it should not come forward as a primarily responsible body. The *All India Rural Credit Survey* has something very caustic to say about the administration at different levels. On page 527, it has said:

"So too, for Indian administration as a whole, a vast field of research and action remains to be covered in the villages of the country. On lessons derived from rural India, rather than on those learnt from the unrelated experience of foreign, industrially more advanced and—in the socio-economic and political aspects—radically different countries, will have to be based both the assessment of administrative needs and the modification of structure to meet those needs."

My complaint has been—and I have voiced that complaint over and over again—that very little is being done

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to reorganise the administration, to assess things, to reorient the machinery of administration. It is most surprising that in the developed community development areas no attention is being paid to land reforms; no experiment is made in land management. One would have expected that the community development areas would be a laboratory for this experiment.

Moving on to the problem of rural credit, as has been pointed out when a review of the break-up of the figures was made, we find that only three per cent of the borrowings are today met by the Government and another three per cent by the co-operatives. The normal needs of our peasants today is about Rs. 750 crores. I have not been able to calculate all the figures that the hon. Minister gave out here in his speech but I wonder how much of this amount will be met by the various agencies that are being set up.

Shri A. P. Jain: Rs. 225 crores per year in 1960-61.

Shri Asoka Mehta: That means about a third of the needs. By 1960 we are anxious to increase our income by about 20 per cent which means the needs of credit will also increase. I would, further point out that our experience so far has been that the advantage of Government finances as well as our co-operative finance is usually taken by the higher strata of the peasantry. The *All India Rural Credit Survey* has reported this fact that they are not in a position to take advantage of Government and co-operative finances. It has been the experience in the community development areas. I am sure you would have gone through a very interesting publication—*Community Projects—First Reactions*—an evaluation authority has given us that. If you look through it you will find that even in those areas it is the prosperous section of the peasantry that has been able to take advantage of the facilities that are being offered. Therefore,

we have got to think of the ways and means whereby additional credit facilities will be made available particularly to the smaller and lower section of peasantry. I find from the speech delivered by the hon. Minister for Food and Agriculture that credit facilities will be provided for capital expenditure on farm as well as family expenditure, but only 28 per cent borrowings is for capital expenditure on farm and 50 per cent for family expenditure. What is going to happen to family expenditure? After all, those things remain. Unless some alternative arrangements are made merely closing up the tap of traditional methods of credit supply without providing an alternative arrangement to meet the family expenditure of the peasants will, perhaps, create new complications in our rural economy.

I am aware that co-operatives are to be developed in a big way. But, the experience so far has been—I might invite your attention to the latest statistical statement relating to co-operative movement in India issued by the Reserve Bank, and there we find—that the average size of our co-operative societies is woefully small. The average membership is only 46. There again, if we analyse and compare the break-up of figures we find that co-operative movement seems to have advanced more loans to the non-agricultural sector. The non-agricultural credit societies and the non-agricultural non-credit societies both have been able to advance greater loans and command a larger working capital than the primary agricultural credit societies and the primary agricultural non-credit societies. After 50 years we find that the co-operative movement is lopsided and if this lopsidedness is to be removed then it will not be just enough to say that we are going to develop State-sponsored and State-partnered co-operatives.

Sir, I would like to invite your attention to what the President of the Republic had to say on the subject. The President of the Republic (presiding at that time, in 1950, as Dr.

Rajendra Prasad) presiding over the Conference of Agricultural Economists said that the Governmental agency was:

"unable to get out of routine and retdape and to establish that intimate relationship with the cultivator which is necessary to win his confidence and rouse his enthusiasm. It continues to be as wooden as it was more than 30 years ago, when Mr. Montague, the then Secretary of State for India, characterised it as such."

I would not like the co-operative movement to come under the influence of this wooden structure. The hon. Minister has told us that certain precautions are being taken. I would still urge him to give his attention to a very novel but at the same time very fruitful suggestion that has been made by the All India Village Industries Board in the report they have published called *Building from Below*. It has been suggested there that co-operatives for a thousand families be built up, a kind of compulsory co-operatives safeguarding full internal autonomy without any kind of government sponsorship or partnership. I would still like the Food Minister to evaluate the possibilities of working along these lines. I would at least suggest, let us not have a common pattern all over the country. Let us try out different patterns in different parts and thereby in some districts where this measure is tried out we shall have in a history of some years a variety of results and a variety of experiments. We shall then know which particular experiment is likely to be successful in our country.

Sir, it has been pointed out by the Rural Credit Survey and also by the various publications of the United Nations that reorganisation of credit system alone would not be of any avail. Reorganisation of the credit system together with land reforms are important undoubtedly, but they have ultimately to be dovetailed into a general economic plan and to that extent I still do not think—I am not sure

—that with the Plan that we are drawing up just now—of course we shall have an opportunity to discuss it when the draft Plan is available—it will be possible for us to change in any way the pressure that is today on land. We are not trying to find out the organisational wherewithals needed to transform our economy. In a country where there is abundant labour and where there is limited capital the paucity of capital can always be made up by adequate organisation. That was the unique contribution that Lenin made to the understanding of economic development. I know that we are not interested in having the patterns of organisations that were developed by Lenin but we are called upon to discover our own patterns, democratic alternatives to the organisations that were developed there. I find that in the entire thinking of the Government no attention is given to the building up of the organisational structure. All the time the entire burden is sought to be thrown upon the Government whereas experience of the world tells us that no government machinery is capable of undertaking the responsibilities of reorganising, reorienting and transforming the rural society. This task can only be undertaken by popular organisations, partly because of the general sterility that has overtaken most of the political parties in the country and partly because of the general indifference to popular initiative that is characteristic of the Government. We find in this country that hardly any attention is being given to the need of developing the organisation potential through which alone we shall be able to activate, we shall be able to vitalise the rather stagnant rural economy. Rural credit undoubtedly is an important element but rural credit will be able to play a dynamic, decisive role only to the extent it is backed up by mobilisation of an active, alert, participating public opinion, to the extent the organisational potential is discovered and mobilised.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Sir, I want some clarification about the procedure. Mr. Deputy-Speaker an-

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nounced that the leaders of parties will be given 20 minutes and other Members 15 minutes. Now, we notice that you are giving 30 minutes to everybody.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Deputy-Speaker announced 30 minutes. Shri A. K. Gopalan made a request to him to be allowed to have 30 minutes and he agreed to that. Similarly, spokesmen of parties will be allowed 30 minutes. So far as other Members are concerned they will be allowed 15 minutes.

Dr. Suresh Chandra (Aurangabad): Who are all the leaders of parties?

Mr. Chairman: It is not for the Chair to determine who are the leaders of the parties.

Now, I find no hon. Member standing up, shall I call the hon. Minister to reply?

श्री एम० पी० मिश्र : (मुंबई उत्तर पश्चिम) : सभापति महोदय

Shri G. H. Deshpande (Nasik Central): We were under the impression that some other business was to be taken up, that is why nobody stood up.

Mr. Chairman: Non-official business will be taken up 4.30 only.

श्री एम० पी० मिश्र : श्री कृषि मंत्री महोदय ने जो भाषण दिया और देश की कृषि के सम्बन्ध में जो एक संतोषजनक चित्र रक्खा, उस पर मैं भी सन्तोष जाहिर करता हूँ। इस समय मुझे उस आदमी की याद आती है जो आज इस सदन में मौजूद नहीं है। आज से तीन, चार साल पहले इस देश की स्थिति, खास कर भोजन और खाद्य के मामले में, बहुत ही नाजुक मानी जाती थी। लेकिन हमने देखा कि जब स्वर्गीय श्री रफी अहमद क्रिदवई ने कृषि मंत्रालय का कार्य भार सम्हाला तो उन्होंने बड़ी योग्यता से अपने कर्तव्य को निमाया और एक बहादुराना और मजबूत क्रम

उठा कर देश में खेती, कृषि और भोजन की स्थिति बदल दी। आज इसका श्रेय उनको है और यह सदन उन की याद करता है कि चार साल के अन्दर नक़शा इतना बदल गया है कि जो देश चार साल पहले हर साल अकाल का सामना करता था, वह आज अपनी ज़रूरत का अनाज पैदा करके प्रतिरिक्त अनाज विदेशों में भेजकर बेचता है।

कृषि मंत्री महोदय ने बहुत विस्तार के साथ सरकार के द्वारा उठाये गये क़दमों का जिक्र किया है। मैं इस सम्बन्ध में सिर्फ़ इतना कहना चाहता हूँ कि मुझे जो मालूम है कि पहली पंचवर्षीय योजना में इस देश की कृषि, खेती और ज़मीन को सबसे ज्यादा तरज़ीह दी गई थी, पहली जगह दी गई थी और उसमें जो २० सौ करोड़ रुपया खर्च किया जान वाला था उसका करीब २५ प्रतिशत खेती पर खर्च किया जाने वाला था और खर्च किया गया। उस योजना में यह समझा गया था और माना गया था कि इस देश की तरक्की खेती के माध्यम से ही हो सकती है। दूसरी चीज़ें इस के बाद आती हैं और इसी के मुताबिक हम ने देखा कि पहली पंचवर्षीय योजना में सब से ज्यादा तरज़ीह कृषि और खाद्य उत्पादन को दी गई है। और, क्यों ऐसा माना गया, इस के लिये खास कारण हैं। इस देश की जो समस्या है वह अपने ढंग की अकेली है, वह दूसरे देशों से नहीं मिल सकती।

Mr. Chairman: Order, order. The hon. Member can continue tomorrow. Let us now take up private Members' business.

FUNERAL REFORMS BILL

Mr. Chairman: Regarding Bills to be introduced, Dr. N. B. Khare is not present. So, the House will now resume further discussion of the Bill to provide for the cremation of dead human bodies in India. Out of one hour allotted for the discussion of this

Bill, 11 minutes were taken up on the 2nd September, 1955, leaving a balance of 49 minutes for further discussion. Shri Telkikar will now continue his speech.

Shri Telkikar (Nanded): On the last occasion, I was speaking about the sanitary aspect of the problem and quoted an instance from the History of England which was more than enough to establish the potentialities, the dangerous potentialities of causing epidemics in the burial system.

Now, I shall tell you about the horrors of the system of carrying the dead body on the human shoulders. In a lecture in the Y.M.C.A. in Bangalore, Shri Tejpal gave an example of a funeral party of more than 25 persons, when the dead body was carried on the human shoulders. All the 25 or more persons died the very next day. So, there is the burial system as well as the custom of carrying the dead body on human shoulders. Both are quite insanitary and dangerous.

I shall give the opinion of some experts on this subject. One of the modern experts is Dr. H. Aubrey Husband, M.D., M.C. He writes in the *Forensic Medicine and Public Health* as follows:

"The disposal of the dead is a matter of considerable importance to the well-being of the community and so far as the burial system is concerned, the *Encyclopaedia Britannica* says that this method can be only temporary, since ultimately it is a sanitary question. The soil is gradually filled with bones and as houses crowd round cemeteries, we should recoil from the horrors of putrefaction of human flesh and the small worms that fret the dead body."

He goes on to say:

"Even Jesus Christ is reported to have said that the whites sepulchres may outwardly appear beautiful to men but within they are full of filthiness. And the

Church of England has expressly declared that the orthodoxy can have no religious objection to cremation."

So, that quotation indicates the opinion of the Christian world on this subject.

As regard economic side of the question, I would say that the system of cremation is less expensive than the other systems, especially in small villages and in cities where crematoria are provided. Though the reformers and some other people prefer the system of cremation, there are some orthodox people who object to it saying that it is a deviation from the traditional way of disposing of the dead. They are afraid to deviate from the old rut that they were following till now. But this is no innovation at all.

Now, if we look at the history of funerals, we will come to know that among the ancient nations of the world, cremation was the custom. I shall, in this connection, refer to some verses from *Atharva Veda* and *Iliad* which will go to show that not only in India but in ancient Greece and Rome and many other ancient countries, excepting of course Egypt, the custom was one of cremation generally. In India the other methods were also adopted, but they were adopted in emergencies. There are four usages for disposal of the dead body. The first verse is:

अप्रेमं जीवा बरुषन गृहेभ्यः तं नर्वहत्
परिभ्रामादितः मत्सूर्यमस्या सीहतः
प्रचेता असून पितृभ्योगमयांचकारः

The meaning is: the living should exclude the dead from their houses and convey it out of the town. Death is a blissful form of God and kindly messenger of Yama, who made his life-breath to the forefathers. I am quoting to show that we had no cemeteries in the heart of the cities. They were forbidden in olden days too. They were outside the cities. The next verse is:

श्री एष० एन० दास : अप्रप वेदसे पद
रहे है या उपनिषद से ।

श्री तेलकीकर : यह एफस्ट्रिकटस में शर्मा
वद के लाया हूँ ।

ये निखाता ये परोपता ये दग्धा ये चोढता ।
सर्वास्तानमन् भावहू पिहू हू विवे भक्तवे ॥

The meaning is: There are four usages for disposal of the dead—*agnidah* or cremation; *bhumidah* or burial; *jaladah* or water burial, that is, just throwing the body into the ocean and *suryadah* which is practised by Parsis, where the body is thrown to the vultures. These were the methods which were practised in olden days. Cremation was the only custom but the other methods were adopted for emergencies only.

Then there is another verse:

इहनी युनिज्मते वमी असुनीताय वाडवे ।
ताभ्यां यमस्य सादनं समितीश्चावगच्छतात ॥

The meaning is: the vehicle used for conveying the dead body is of the type as was being used by forefathers and oxen yoked to it are helpful in taking the dead to the meritorious world of the virtuous.

There is one more verse:

अन्वञ्च प्रैतेमयुजो मियुनाः प्रवयसे ।
पीठचक्रण गौयुवजन नयन्ति ॥

The meaning is: a dead body should be conveyed in a wheeled vehicle that has a seat and drawn by the bullocks.

So, we see from these verses that the cult of carrying the dead body on human shoulders has no support in scriptures.

[SHRI BARMAN in the Chair]

The present system of carrying the body on the shoulders seems to have been adopted recently. It is very harmful to the people, because we find, especially in summer, when the body is carried over long distances,

the people have suffered much. In the monsoon they get wet and in winter they catch cold.

I shall now quote the opinion of a great Mohammedan gentleman, Abul Al Maarri, who lived in the olden days, who was born in 363 Hijiri and died in 449 Hijiri. He has said in one of his books which are found in the library of the Aligarh University, that he likes cremation of the dead which is practised in India because it is the best way for disposing of the filthiness of a dead body of a man

Mr. Chairman: May I tell the hon. Member that one hour is allotted for his Bill. He has taken 11 minutes on last occasion and has taken about 10 minutes now. If he wants the Bill to be discussed, he should conclude his speech now. Others are anxious to speak.

Shri Telkikar: I shall finish in a couple of minutes. One hon. Member—I think it was Shri Jaipal Singh—was kind enough to suggest sarcastically that he wanted an on-the-spot cremation of the Bill.

Shri Nambiar (Mayuram): The Bill requires burial.

Shri Telkikar: I shall only request the Hon'ble Member in the words of Lord Buddha, to believe.... (Interruption)

Shri Jaipal Singh (Ranchi West—Reserved-Sch. Tribes): I have a feeling that my name is being taken purposefully and not in vain. I should like to know for what purpose my name is being mentioned.

Shri Nambiar (Mayuram): That is for the burial of the Bill.

Shri Telkikar: I shall only request in the words of Lord Buddha:

"To believe not because some old manuscripts are produced to believe not because it is his national belief, or because he has been made to believe from his childhood; but to reason it all out, and after he has analysed it, then

if he finds that it will do good to one and all to believe it, to live up to it and to help others to live up to it."

With these words, I commend the Bill for the acceptance of this House.

Mr. Chairman: Motion moved:

"That the Bill to provide for the cremation of dead human bodies in India be circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinion thereon by the end of October, 1955."

Shri Mohiuddin (Hyderabad City): When I read this Bill, I was rather surprised that a Bill of this type should be introduced in the House of the People—Lok Sabha, because it contains matter which is offensive to the sentiments and to the faith of a very large percentage of the population of India. In the first instance, this Bill deals with a subject which is in the State list and I am sure that Parliament has no jurisdiction to pass such a law. Secondly, I invite your attention to the Statement of Objects and Reasons in which the author of the Bill says:

"There are two main systems prevalent in India, viz., the method of cremation, followed by a small section of the people and the burial system followed by large sections of the people in India. The burial system has in it dangerous potentialities to cause epidemics apart from cemeteries occupying land space at the cost of lands, which may well be utilised for agricultural and housing purposes."

Sub-clause (2) of clause 6 says:

"All cemeteries existing before the commencement of this Act shall belong to the Government which shall be used for the public utility purposes."

What does this mean? What are public utility purposes? This means that all the graves that are there in the cemeteries should be removed and the land should be utilised for purposes of parks or buildings. Such a suggestion coming from a Member

of Parliament, especially on this side of the House, seems to me to be extremely surprising. I do not want to use a stronger term, but I think I can say that this proposal is nothing but vandalism.

[**MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER** in the Chair]

The whole subject of the Bill is such that if this House agrees to circulate it for public opinion, it will create a very strong feeling amongst the large number of different communities in India. I do not think that it is worthwhile considering the Bill any more nor is it worthwhile circulating it for public opinion. I propose that the Bill should be rejected and the whole question dropped without any further consideration...

Shri Nambar: Without any ceremony.

Shri C. R. Iyyanni (Trichur): In the first place I wish to say that the Parliament has absolutely no right to discuss this Bill at all, for the simple reason that it comes within the State List. Entry No. 10 of the State List mentions "Burials and burial grounds; cremation and cremation grounds". Therefore, the Parliament has absolutely no right to discuss a matter of this kind and pass it. That is my first objection. Unless there is a ruling upon the matter, there is no need for me to go further. If the ruling is that the Parliament has absolutely no right to discuss this matter, then there is no use in proceeding further.

Secondly, I wish to say that a Bill of this nature will generally wound the feelings of a very large number of people in this country. Therefore, it will not be proper for this Bill to be discussed and passed. It is conceded in the Statement of Objects and Reasons by the mover of the Bill that the burial system is followed by large sections of the people of India. Now, taking it for granted that we human beings change the practice of burial and cremate dead bodies, what about the animalkind? If they also are not cremated, what is the advantage that we are going to derive?

[Shri C. R. Iyyunni]

I can understand it if it is viewed from the point of view of sanitation or public health. But nothing is said on this matter. It is not exactly a question whether it is beneficial to public health or sanitation; that is not the point. The only point which appears to me is merely to create a general feeling of hostility between one community and another; nothing more. There are Mohammedans, Christians and Hindus who bury the dead bodies. A very large section amongst the Hindus bury the dead bodies. They do not cremate the dead bodies. Purely from the abstract point of view, one might say that cremation is always good. I do not see anything against it; but the point is, what exactly is the benefit that is going to be derived because of this partial cremation of dead bodies?

Shri Nambiar: Election stunt.

Shri C. R. Iyyunni: I do not know what it is. I cannot say. Somehow or other, it seems to me that this is intended to create bad blood among the people. We say, ours is a secular republic, and we are not generally interested in matters religious and spiritual and things of that kind. At the same time, when Bills of this nature are brought, I do not know what is exactly at the back of the mind of the Mover.

There is one interesting matter about this Bill. It says that all cemeteries existing before the commencement of this Act shall belong to the Government which shall be used for public utility purposes. Is it a question of confiscation of property? As a matter of fact, in the U.S.A., much of the troubles that have arisen between the Red Indians and the U.S.A. people is due to this reason. Many places where their big people or chieftains had been buried, have been taken away without their knowledge. The result is there have been fights. Especially among the Christians and others who have buried the dead, the feeling is that that is considered to be sacred ground. Should

the Government take over the property without paying compensation? There are so many things. It is a question of confiscation. Such of those places where the dead bodies have been buried, would be taken simply by making a statement that they would be taken away. I can understand acquisition of property. Certainly there must be some principle. What is the purpose? It is said, public utility purpose. What is public utility purpose, I cannot understand. Are they going to convert them into paddy fields so that there may be greater production?

Shri Nambiar: Construction of railways.

Shri C. R. Iyyunni: Is it a case of increase of water resources or anything else? It appears to be very ill-conceived. I may say that it is intended to create unnecessary ill-feeling between communities and communities and between the people. I beg to submit that, in the first place, this Bill cannot be taken up here for the simple reason that it comes within the State List and not under the Union List or the Concurrent List. I stoutly oppose this Bill.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Shri Jaipal Singh.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I submit, Sir, a constitutional point has been raised by Shri C. R. Iyyunni that this comes within the State List. May I submit to you that that should be settled first and then we may proceed.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member may go on. In all these cases, the final arbiter is Parliament. This will also be taken into consideration that this subject is in the State List, along with the merits. If it is weak on merits, you must turn to the law.

Shri Nambiar: We are strong on merits.

Shri Jaipal Singh: I thank you for giving me this opportunity which was very unexpected. I thank you once again for giving me this opportunity which gives me an opportunity to request the Mover of this Bill to cremate himself and to cremate this Bill with himself.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Order, order. However good the hon. Member may be, this is very wrong. What is the meaning of the hon. Member asking him to cremate himself? I am afraid it is very wrong.

Shri Jaipal Singh: I am sorry I put it the wrong way round.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Unless he expresses regret, I cannot allow this to remain on record. There is no meaning in this. For various reasons, the Bill may have been brought; it may be right or wrong. It may not be accepted. I never thought that Shri Jaipal Singh would do this.

Shri Jaipal Singh: May I offer my deepest regret? I think in my enthusiasm to oppose this Bill I have used the wrong language.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Very well.

Shri Jaipal Singh: I oppose this Bill wholeheartedly. I am very surprised that such a Bill should come up before this House.

We have declared ourselves to be a democracy. In a democracy, we have to hear every point of view. In this particular case why I feel very strongly is,—I hope you will bear with me—in the constituency that I happen to represent, there are a variety of burial ceremonies. Some of my people bury the dead, and bury them flat. In areas like Darjeeling, where there is scarcity of space, they bury them vertically. Where there is plenty of space, they bury them horizontally. If you come to the Santhal Parganas, they cremate them. The fact is that there is no one way of disposing of the dead.

This Bill is an endeavour, an impossible endeavour, an iniquitous endeavour, a most undemocratic endeavour to make us all one and behave in the same way, and to say that there shall be no other form of disposal of the dead except by cremation. I wish my hon. friend who has brought this Bill had a little more feeling for the people who do not like this particular form of cremation. He forgets that India is a diverse country. I am not talking religiously. That is immaterial to me. To me, personal feeling, is the human aspect is far more important than the economic aspect. Where would be the history of India if everything had been cremated? Today, we go back to whatever we can get at about India's ancient past because the people were not cremated. I want my friend not merely to agree with me on the historical basis. All that I say to him is this. Does he want that everyone should agree with him on this particular basis? My friend here talked of animals. Animals are also important. If you have a pet animal, you may put up a monolith or something like that because of that pet animal. On the other hand, you may have a brother or sister and you want no vestige of your brother or sister to remain behind. You may say, all right, let us burn him or her so that nothing is left behind.

5 P.M.

My point is this. Do you want to survive in a realm of unity in diversity or do you want us to standardise ourselves so that every one should have long hair or no one should use soap and so on? Do you want that? Do we not take pride in the historical traditions of this country where every viewpoint has had a place, where there has been a niche for the contrary view even in regard to the disposal of the dead? To my mind, whether it is in regard to the disposal of the corpses, or in regard to languages or cultures or religions, we have taken a very very firm stand

[Shri Jaipal Singh]

that the rest of the world has to respect, that is peaceful coexistence. It is not a question of cemeteries, of crematoriums or exposing the corpses to the elements as the Zoroastrians do. It is none of that, but we feel that the future of this great Republic of ours lies in our reaction to practical peaceful coexistence. That is to say, we do not force our own feelings on everybody else, but we accommodate ourselves to everybody else. If I may insist on this, I do ask the Mover of this to withdraw this completely unacceptable Bill, and tell him that it is about high time that he imbibed at least the most elementary principles of Panch Shila. This Bill goes completely against the principles of Panch Shila which, of course, we are trying to show to the rest of the world, but to the rest of the world these five principles have no meaning whatever unless we ourselves are witnesses, unless we ourselves practise them. It is not a question whether I am to be cremated or this Bill is to be cremated or somebody else is to be cremated. That is not the question. The question is: what am I asking somebody else to do? Let me not ask anyone to do something which I myself do not want. May I repeat again: I make a humble request through you that this Bill be withdrawn because it is directly contrary to the democratic principles of the Republic of India.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: May I ask the hon. Mover of this Bill how he has brought it before this Parliament when it is in Entry No. 10 in the State List? If there is a doubt I leave it to the House, but otherwise it is patent as I ruled out the amendments some time ago of Shri V. P. Nayar regarding certain items which were sought to be introduced in the motion on economic policy on the ground that those items all come under the State List. Likewise, if they are patently in the State List I would ask the hon. Member to show why this House has got jurisdiction. If there is any doubt I leave it to the

House. If there is no doubt on that matter, I say it ought not to be moved.

Shri Telkikar: In the beginning there was some objection that it was *ultra vires*, but I would read article 25 and then proceed to the Lists later on. The conditions laid down in article 25 are:

“(1) Subject to public order, morality and health and to the other provisions of this Part, all persons are equally entitled to freedom of conscience and the right freely to profess, practise and propagate religion.”

Of course, the Constitution-makers in their wisdom knew that there would be some reform and they would have to go against some of the wishes of the people. So, they provided that though there is some custom or practice which is a religious practice, if it is harmful to the public at large, that can be changed.

Then, provision (2) in the article says:

“(2) Nothing in this article shall affect the operation of any existing law or prevent the State from making any law—

“(a) regulating or restricting any economic, financial, political or other secular activity which may be associated with religious practice;”

Now, funeral reform is a secular activity associated with religious practice. So, there is no prohibition to make law. The only question is whether it is a State subject or a Union subject. Now, I shall come to that.

Shri Namblar: Article 25 suggests....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Order, order. There must be some order. What is the hurry. This Bill is not passed the moment it is introduced. There

need be no hurry or excitement over this matter.

Shri Telkikar: Article 25(2) (b) again provides for social welfare, reform etc.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The point is, article 25 gives freedom of religion and the right to practise it subject to order, morality etc. It is on grounds of religion that this practice has been followed. Hon. Member wants to say this is opposed to health and therefore can create an exception. Even assuming that this argument is sound, which is the forum where he has to agitate it? That is the main point. How does it come here?

Shri Telkikar: I will come to that. Naturally one goes to the State List one finds items 6 and 10, and the words are so clear that because the Bill relates to cremation, they say cremation or whatever relates to cremation is in the State List. We are not going by the very words. We should know what the Bill seeks to achieve.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Public health also is in the State List.

Shri Telkikar: Yes, both of them are in the State List. I refer you to item No. 20 in the Concurrent List. The item in the State List refers only to local conditions of cremation and so on, but the sanitary question is wider, relates to the whole of India.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Economic and social planning. Cremation is the end of all planning.

Shri Telkikar: It may appear far-fetched, but we have provided for economic and social planning. What do we mean by social planning? We want to change social customs, and if we can reform them, that becomes a subject of the Concurrent List.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Is there any other entry on which he relies?

Shri Telkikar: No entry.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Will the hon. Minister say something on this point?

The Deputy Minister of Health (Shrimati Chandrasekhar): On this point, I think, from what the other Members have said, that it is *ultra vires* of the Constitution.

Shri Jaipal Singh: Before the Deputy Minister goes on, I would like to have a clarification. If you will forgive me and be as patient as you usually have been, you asked the Mover of this Bill as to why he introduced it. I hope you accept that. You did ask him just now....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: No, no. It is not on the facts. I asked him how he introduced it. Possibly the word "why" is wrong. I asked him how he introduced it in this House. That is the only question. It is not "why", but "how".

Shri Jaipal Singh: If "how", may I ask why it was accepted?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: That is another matter. The practice in this House is that unless exception is taken at the first reading, normally the first reading is allowed to go unopposed. If the hon. Member had been equally vigilant in the first reading, possibly it would have been thrown out. I am not in a position to say what would have happened. Therefore, normally in the first reading no Bill is opposed. There are Bills which are opposed in the first reading. It might have been opposed.

Shri A. M. Thomas: But we do not know the contents of the Bill at the first reading stage.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I am not taking anybody to task. Shri Jaipal Singh asked how it had been accepted. The House does not look into it normally unless an hon. Member brings it to the notice of the House, takes note, and asks the House to divide on that particular matter. Now it is all old history. I only wanted him to explain to us how it comes within the jurisdiction of this House, not why. "Why" is wrong.

Shri Telkikar rose—

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He has said enough. The hon. Deputy Minister may be assisted by the other hon. Minister also by her side.

Shrimati Chandrasekhar: He can come at a later stage if there is necessity.

I can tell you the reason why we oppose it. He says that the Bill proposed is a social and economic piece of legislation of all-India importance, and that is why it comes under item 20 of the Concurrent List, and is also a permissible exception to article 25 of the Constitution. The Health Ministry in consultation with the Law Ministry have examined the legal position of the Bill. Even you, Sir, said and the Members of the House also feel that the burial and burial grounds, cremation and cremation grounds, come under item 10 of the State List. Therefore, the subject-matter of the Bill is not governed by Entry No. 20 of the Concurrent List, and therefore the Lok Sabha is precluded from enacting legislation of this kind, especially for territories in Part A and Part B States unless the procedure prescribed in articles 249 and 250 of the Constitution is followed, or under article 252 all the States request the Lok Sabha to legislate for this purpose. Unless there are such provisions, I do not think the Lok Sabha is competent enough to enact any legislation on this subject.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: But this Bill can apply to the Part C States.

Shrimati Chandrasekhar: There are other discrepancies also. Even if the Bill becomes the law of the land, clauses 4 and 5 are likely to be declared void under article 13 (2) of the Constitution.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: We shall go into those particular clauses later on.

Now, what emerges from the discussion is this. When there is a clear provision in the Constitution in respect of burials and burial grounds, and cremation and cremation grounds

it is no good falling back upon a general Entry like economic and social planning, when there is a doubt.

Any law that is passed here will be confined in its operation only to the Part C States. Originally I had thought that the whole thing can be thrown out on the ground or on the interpretation that when there is a clear Entry in the Constitution, we ought not to allow a legislation like this to be passed here. But Parliament has got jurisdiction over the Part C States. To that extent, the House can pass this Bill if it so likes.

Now, about one hour has been taken already on this Bill. I shall now put the motion to vote both on its merits and also on the legal aspects of it. To whatever little area it can apply, it may apply. Does the hon. Minister want to say anything more?

Shri Telkikar: I would like to say something in reply.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I know that the hon. Member has got the right of reply.

Shri Nambiar: He is not replying now. (Interruptions).

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Order, order. Hon. Members should not give directions like this to the Chair. I am unable to know who is regulating the debate here.

Shri A. M. Thomas: Moreover, Shri Nambiar is not in his usual seat.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Order, order. The hon. Member need not give directions to the Chair or to the House as to what it ought to do.

Does the hon. Deputy Minister want to say anything more?

Shrimati Chandrasekhar: I do not think I have anything more to say besides what the other Members have said.

Shri Telkikar: I shall most humbly submit to this august House that this is only a motion for circulation.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member has explained sufficiently about the legal position. Now he may come to economic and social planning.

Shri Telkikar: This is only a motion for circulation, by which we shall be able to assess the public opinion on the subject, and we shall be able to know how far the country favours the reform.

I expected that some people may get angry with this measure, just as my hon. friend Shri Mohiuddin got angry. But it generally happens that, whenever there are any reforms, they are surprising to those who follow the old methods, and therefore those persons get angry. That is quite natural. I was not at all surprised to find that here.

But what I want to say is that there is nothing very dogmatic about this Bill. This Bill can be changed, if necessary. We have already got one example of this in the Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Bill. It was altered to such an extent that it was not even recognisable at the end as the original Bill. The same thing can be done in this case also. The provisions of this Bill go to say that this Bill may be applicable to foreigners also, who are residing here. Perhaps the House may not like to apply it to foreigners. We may delete that provision in that case.

There is another provision in the Bill which says that only the cremation system should be adopted. We may restrict the application of that provision to all the Hindus only. If the country is not favourable even to that, then we may have only the provision that the system of carrying the dead body on the shoulders may be abolished, and that it may be carried in hearses.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Is it also one of the clauses here that corpses ought not to be carried by human beings?

Shri Telkikar: Yes, Sir, it is there in clause 6.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I have no quarrel with the hon. Member. I only wanted to know.

Shri Telkikar: I would like to tell hon. Members that even in Karachi, where there is not a secular Government, they have closed down all the cemeteries in the heart of the city, and they have said that the cemeteries should be outside the city. This was done on the ground of sanitation. I would therefore say that we may also proceed in the same direction.

This motion is only for the circulation of the Bill for eliciting public opinion thereon. I hope therefore that the House will adopt this motion.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

“That the Bill to provide for the cremation of dead human bodies in India be circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinion thereon by . . .”.

By what date does the hon. Member want that the Bill may be circulated?

Shri Telkikar: There are two amendments to this motion, one by Shri Pocker Saheb and the other by Shri N. B. Chowdhury, seeking to extend the period up to the end of December 1955. Shri Pocker Saheb does not seem to be against this Bill. He only wants that more time may be given for circulation.

Shri C. R. Iyyunni: May I know what exactly is your ruling regarding the preliminary objection that I had raised, namely that Parliament has no jurisdiction to proceed with this Bill?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: That is true. The hon. Member has raised that point. I wanted to ascertain from the hon. Mover the exact position, for this item is found in Entry No. 10 of List II in the Seventh Schedule. But as against that, Parliament has got jurisdiction over the Part C States. To that extent, this Bill can have limited application. To the extent it can be valid, it will be valid. It cannot be ruled

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out on the ground that it is a State subject, or that it comes under the State List, because we have got jurisdiction over State matters also, so far as Part C States are concerned. On the substance, it is open to the House to throw this Bill out.

Should I put the amendments of Shri Pocker Saheb and Shri N. B. Chowdhury to vote?

Shri Pocker Saheb (Malappuram): I am not moving it.

Shri N. B. Chowdhury: I am not moving it.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: So, only the original motion is to be put to vote.

The question is:

"That the Bill to provide for the cremation of dead human bodies in India be circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinion thereon by the end of October, 1955."

The motion was negatived.

INDIAN CONVERTS (REGULATION AND REGISTRATION) BILL

Shri Jethalal Joshi (Madhya Saorashtra): I beg to move:

"That the Bill to regulate conversion and to provide for registration and licensing of persons aiding any person to become a convert, be taken into consideration."

I crave the same indulgence of this House as was shown to me at the time of the introduction stage of this very Bill. Now, this is the fag end of this day, and the fag end of this Session, and the darkness is drawing nearer. I feel that generally the conversions take place in the dark regions and in the dark hours of poverty, of ignorance, of backwardness, and of distress of the poor people. It is therefore in the fitness of things that I am required to move

for the consideration of this Bill at this hour.

While doing so, I should say that I am not actuated by any narrow sectarianism or any dogmas of any religious principles. I may again say that the first book of religion which I have read is the Bible.

The *Pilgrim's Progress* written by Bunyan has left a very great impression, and a lasting impression, upon my life. I may therefore say that while I am bringing this Bill forward, there are certain things which the Christian missionaries are carrying on which, to my mind, are against the very principles of their religion.

The Statement of Objects and Reasons of the Bill says:

"Religious conversion is often resorted to, to achieve objects which are improper. There is at present no machinery available to furnish correct statistical information on this subject".

This is borne out by a few lines in the *Census of India*, Paper II 1953, 'Religion—51'. It is mentioned therein that the growth of a community depends upon three factors natural increase, migration and conversion. It is, however difficult to assess the weightage of each factor separately. Now, out of these three, we know that there is a register maintained for the births and then for migration to foreign countries, we have also sources for assessing the figures, I mean the visas, permits or passports. But there is no source to assess how far conversions take place. In this Census Report at every page, it has been stated that conversions have been carried on on a large scale—I mean *en masse* or on a mass scale....

Shri Punnoose (Alleppey): Which book is the hon. Member referring to?

Shri Jethalal Joshi:on a big scale. In Bihar, in 1921, the number

of the Christian population was 2,50,000; in 1931, it rose to 3,32,000, in 1941, 3,78,000 and in 1951, 4,22,000. In Orissa, in 1921, it was 69,000 and it rose to 1,41,000 in 1951. The percentage of increase in Orissa was 92; in the coastal division it was 190 per cent. In Assam, the Christian population in 1941 was 3,56,000 and by 1951, it rose to 5,86,000. In the Hills division in 1941, it was 2,40,000; in 1951, it was 25,700; in 1951, it rose to 68,000. In Tripura, it was 317 in 1941 and in ten years, it rose to 5,200. In Travancore, from 23 per cent. it rose to 32 per cent. in 1951.

The growth of this population from 1881 to 1951 is like this. Taking 100 as the base in 1881, Hindus rose from 100 to 255, in 1951, Christians to 467 and Muslims, to 400. In Madhya Pradesh, there was wholesale conversion of Oraons. In 1901, the population was 27,000; in 1951, it was 73,000.

Shri C. R. Iyyunni: May I know from which book he is quoting?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member will bear with patience.

Shri Jethalal Joshi: In Hyderabad from 1901 to 1951, the Christian population increased by 1165 per cent.

Now, let me take the House back to the years before 1900, to 1851 and onwards.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Where does he get these figures from?

Shri Jethalal Joshi: I have got all these books here. I will lay them on the Table. There is the Census Report also.

In 1851, the Kols were 31 in number. In 1861, they were 2400, in 1871, 20,727 and in 1881, 64,000. From 1851 to 1881 the Kols rose from 31 to 64,000. In Madras, in 1851, the number was 74,000 and in 1900 it was 5,06,000. In U.P. there were 1700 in 1851; by 1900, the number rose to 1,08,000. In 1890, the total population in the south was 5 lakhs. In 1900, it rose to 8,54,000. As regards the total number of

Christians whereas it was 38,76,000 in 1911, it rose to 47,54,000 in 1921 and in 1951, it is 80,00,000. These are the figures.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: How much of this increase can be attributed to natural growth of population?

Shri Jethalal Joshi: Then I may read out from every page. In U.P., the Christians were only 48,000 in 1881. They kept on increasing at each census till they reached the figure of 2,08,000 in 1931.

An Hon. Member: In how many years?

Shri Jethalal Joshi: In page 21, it is mentioned that this figure is due mainly to their gradual absorption into the Hindu fold and conversion to Christianity.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: What is that book?

Shri Jethalal Joshi: It is the Census of India, Paper No. 2, 1953, 'Religion—1951 Census'. As regards Orissa, it is mentioned that this is due partly to natural growth and the change in the basis of recording tribal religion and partly to a number of conversions that have taken place to the faith particularly from among the Scheduled Tribes in districts Sundargarh, Korapur, Phulbani, Sambalpur and Bolangir.

Now, I come to the other point, as to what were the methods adopted for converting people. The methods adopted are as under: The Christian missionaries threaten people with prosecution and beating if they do not attend the churches; they interfere with the civil and criminal cases before courts; they promise heaven on earth, and they indulge in vicious propaganda against the long cherished customs, religion, culture and traditions of the soil. Then they bribe and trick the poor and ignorant people; they lend money on interest and then wipe out the debt if the person embraces Christianity, and they consider the people of this country as heathens and pagans and uncivilised.

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They make a display of their wealth and dazzle the unsophisticated people; induce children to attend schools and so prepare and convert them by changing their names into Christian names. In times of famine and flood, they distribute foodgrains, money and clothes and render help in many other ways but then they demand the heavy price for that in the form of making them change their religion. Then, they bribe poor people with money and even induce some semi-educated Hindu and aboriginal youths to enter service and then force them to become Christians on pain of losing their jobs.

Gandhiji has stated very often that missionaries are taking undue advantage of the conditions of poverty and the illiteracy and backwardness of the villagers and convert them into Christians. He had also asked the missionaries to confine their activities to purely humanitarian work. He has further said that proselytisation was not true conversion. He has again said that it is a conviction daily growing upon him that the great and rich Christian missionaries will render true service to this country if they persuade themselves to confine their activities to humanitarian work without the ulterior motive of converting India and destroying her social structure which has stood now from times immemorial the onslaught upon it from within and from without.

Then again, Thakar Baba than whom we have not seen a greater friend of the backward classes and the backward tribes, has stated that the Secretary of the Prefecture at Jubbalpur admitted that the very reason they came out to India was to make conversions. He says further, that those who have actually seen them at work cannot forswear that their methods are disgustingly dubious and unfair. At some places the missionaries razed to the ground the village temple and erected Christian churches.

Now, I shall quote one from our Treasury Benches. "Conversion or the desire to impel other persons to change the faith has always savoured

of an arrogance which must surely be against the doctrine of life for which Christ lived and died. Many converts have been denationalised and their names have been changed." These are the words spoken by Rajkumari Amrit Kaur.

I come now to an amusing thing. Here is a book by Mr. Pickett.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Why does he not pronounce the name properly?

Shri Jethalal Joshi: I am pronouncing the name properly but others do not hear me properly. The name is Waskom Pickett. He was the Director of the Reform of Christian Mass Movement in India. In this book, *Christian Mass Movement in India* he placed in the hands of the missionaries a notable prospectus of the achievements, the values, the weaknesses and possibilities of the great humane and divine enterprise (mass conversion). Since the appearance of this book, all missionaries have started now a drive to get as many untouchables, aboriginals and sudras into their fold as possible. This was published in 1933.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Where does he come from? Is he a Christian missionary?

Shri Jethalal Joshi: Probably he comes from America. He is the Director of the National Christian Council of India, Burma and Ceylon. He says:

"Large populations are involved because these movements are chiefly in the villages and the 750,000 villages of India contain nine-tenths of its 350,000,000 people."

He further says:

"It is estimated that one half of the Roman Catholics in India are descendants of mass-movement converts, and that not less than 80 per cent. of the 1,800,000 Protestants are the product of mass movements."

He has put certain questions to the new converts and here are the replies

on page 163. The replies themselves indicate what type of questions they were and that the people were tutored. He asked a young man of Vidyanagar, "Why did you become a Christian?". The reply was, "So, I could be a man. None of us was a man. We were dogs. Only Jesus could make men out of us."

A Psarur widow replied, "We became Christians because our old religion never helped us."

When she was asked, "Has Christianity helped you?", she replied, "Yes, we are very different now; we know the truth and worship God. Evil Spirits don't trouble us and even our enemies have become our friends."

Here are some specimens of the replies that were given to them.

1. Because I was tired of the devil.
3. To escape from cholera."

Now, this is amusing. If cholera can be cured by embracing another religion, then there would be no necessity for medicines and hospitals.

Then;

- "4. To marry a good girl.
7. Because Jesus rescued me from the devil.
9. To fight the devil and help my children.
11. Because I didn't want to be a fool all my life.
13. Because the landowners oppressed us.
14. Because Chamars are stupid, and I didn't want to remain a Chamar.
15. Because I didn't want to hinder God's Spirit.
16. To get rid of my sinful habits.
18. Because I saw advantages while I live and after I die."

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: How many more instances?

Shri Jethalal Joshi: To get a wife for my younger broher (*Interruption*).

Now let me come to the Bill itself. All this is the introduction.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member has taken twenty minutes already. I will allow him ten more minutes.

Shri Jethalal Joshi: The provisions are very simple. The first is that no person shall become a convert without making a declaration to that effect. That means that if a person wants to change his faith, certainly he is permitted to do it and nobody can stop him. Under article 25 of the Constitution, no person can stop anyone else from professing or practising any religion. So, there is no question of stopping. Here is merely a question of making a declaration. Then a notice is required to be given one month prior to the actual date of conversion. When a person or an institution carries on the activities of conversion, they must take a licence from the authorities, say, the District Magistrate. A register is required to be maintained and within three months the licence-holder and the convert are required to give particulars regarding the conversion. Then, conversion of minors should be prohibited. No person who does not hold a licence should be permitted to carry on this conversion activity. There is an application for licence and then there is a penalty. Any person who contravenes any of these rules will be punished with a fine which may extend to Rs. 200 or Rs. 300. This is a very simple and innocent measure. This Bill will apply not only to any one religion or any particular religion but will apply to all religions which are here in this country.

Let me come to the last portion of Mr. Pickett's quotations. He mentions that the large success hitherto achieved in mass movements combined with our present conditions encourages the belief that much larger success is possible. The opportunity presented by mass movements

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has probably been never before so large as it is now. Some reasons for these beliefs have been given by him. He believes and he has still the greedy eye on these poor and backward people. He mentions at the conclusion that there are still many hundreds and thousands of unconverted members of the castes and tribes, for which major mass movements have taken place. He is sorry for that. Non-Christian sudras in the Telugu area far outnumber those who have been converted and a very large proportion have friends or relatives amongst Christians. There are still more than 7,00,000 of animists in Assam, more than 3,50,000 non-Christian oraos, mundas, kharias and santals and more than 5,80,000 chamars unconverted in the Uttar Pradesh. He has this greedy eye on these people who are still unconverted.

There is a cutting from the *Hindustan Times* of 22nd July 1955—it is a very recent one. There, the Rev. Dr. Isaac, Andhra, told the Baptist World Alliance Congress, in London that the end of the British rule in India gave a new impetus to the work of the Baptist Mission. He said that conversion from the higher castes are flowing in greater numbers in the Christian fold. Dr. Verrier Elvin is not a communalist, but he comes from the Western Countries and he has made this country as his home and is staying in some hill areas. He says that tens of thousands of aboriginals have been converted in Chhota Nagpur; the beautiful Santal Pargana is rapidly becoming a Christian country; even one of the Gangapur States has been converted; the entire tribe of Karens have been baptized and so is almost every Lushai, and at the present rate of progress, within a few years, the entire aboriginal population will be converted; it will be turned into a querulous, anti-national, aggressive minority with none of the old virtues and a few of the new, which will be a thorn in the side of the future Government of India.

This was written by Dr. Elvin in the year 1944 and we know how far

it has come true in the North-Eastern Frontier. This was a forecast in 1944 and it has come true partially when we look into the happenings in Assam, in the Naga areas.

Mahatma Gandhi has stated:

"It is impossible for me to reconcile myself to the idea of conversion after the style that goes on in India and elsewhere today. It is an error which is perhaps the greatest impediment to the world's progress towards peace. If the moral of a man is a matter of no concern, a form of worship in a church or a mosque or a temple is an empty formula."

Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan has stated something about religion which will be of great help to us, and I feel that the religions in this country can peacefully co-exist. If there can be peaceful co-existence in the political sphere, I do not know why there could be no peaceful co-existence of all religions in this country.

Here is what Dr. Khan Sahib has said—his message will be of help.

"Take from me that the world is not going to have one religion. All religions are springs running from the same source and nourish different soils, and different people. Why should Mussalmans go crazy for making other people Mussalmans and Christians over making other people Christians."

Now one last word from Lord Salisbury and I shall close. Lord Salisbury was once waited upon by a deputation of missionaries in connection with China and this deputation wanted protection. Lord Salisbury replied:

"Gentlemen, if you want to go to China to preach the message of Christ then do not ask for assistance of temporal power. Go with your lives in your hands, and if the people of China want to kill you, imagine that you have been killed in the service of God."

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: There is no such danger here.

Shri Jethalal Joshi: Now, there are at present 32 countries' missionaries working in India. There are about 68 Catholic and 54 Protestant missions of foreign origin and under foreign control. So, the Indian Christian has no little freedom for deciding the policy. There is no independent Indian Christian mission working in India as an independent religious community. They are connected with foreign countries because the purse or the funds flow from foreign countries.

Shri Matthen (Thiruvellah): My Church has no foreign missionaries.

Shri Jethalal Joshi: Few of the other countries of the world permit such things. In Egypt for instance, there is a ban. In other countries also there is a great restriction on the activities of conversion. With these words I commend this Bill.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion moved:

"That the Bill to regulate conversion and to provide for registration and licensing of persons aiding any person to become a convert be taken into consideration."

There is an amendment by Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad but he is not in his seat. Shri Uikey.

An Hon. Member: Has he got an amendment (*Interruptions*).

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It is a name which I have not called at any time. Let him be given a chance.

श्री उइके (मंडला-जबलपुर दक्षिण-रक्षित-अनुसूचित आदिम जातियाँ) : मैं श्री जेठालाल जोशी के विधेयक का हृदय से समर्थन करता हूँ और उनको इस तरह का बिल लाने के लिये हार्दिक धन्यवाद देता हूँ। उन्होंने जो यह बिल रक्खा है, उसका मैं पूरी शक्ति के साथ समर्थन करता हूँ। हमारी

तो आज से नहीं बहुत दिनों से इच्छा थी कि ऐसा कोई बिल इस पार्लियामेंट के सामने आये, किन्तु हम में इतनी पार्लियामेंटरी बुद्धि न होने के कारण हम खुद इस काम को न कर सके और यह बड़े हर्ष का विषय है कि हमारे श्री जेठालाल जोशी इस तरह का विधेयक इस संसद् में लाये हैं इस भवसर पर मैं समझता हूँ कि हम अपनी कुछ कहानी आपको सुनायें।

श्री जेठालाल जोशी के भाषण में जो कोटेशनस दिये उनसे यह आप को विदित हो गया होगा कि यह जो सारे धर्म परिवर्तन हुये हैं, उनका असर ज्यादातर हमारे आदिवासीयों पर ही पड़ा है और हमारे काफ़ी भाइयों का धर्म परिवर्तन हुआ है क्योंकि अपने देश में आदिवासी ही ऐसे भोले भाँषे हैं जो बहुकावे में आ जाते हैं, वे धर्म शब्द को ही नहीं जानते कि धर्म क्या चीज है। अगर किसी भी आदिवासी के पास आप जाइये और उससे आप पूछिये कि तुम्हारा धर्म क्या है तो वह नहीं बता सकेगा कि उसका धर्म क्या है, वह धर्म जैसी चीज को नहीं समझता, वह अगर समझता है तो अपनी संस्कृति को समझता है ?

उसकी समझ में अपने देवी देवता की पूजा, अर्चा करना ही उसका धर्म है। उसकी जो जाति है वह उसका धर्म है और अगर उसका नाम उसकी जाति में न लिख कर किसी दूसरी जाति में लिख जाये तो वह समझता है कि उसका धर्म चला गया। अगर उसके रहन-सहन में कोई बाधा डाले तो वह समझता है कि उसका धर्म चला गया, अगर उसके देवी, देवता की पूजा, अर्चा करने में कोई फेर बदल कर दे तो वह समझता है कि भेरा धर्म चला गया और अगर किसी ने उसके पानी को छू दिया या खाने को छू दिया तो वह समझता है कि उसका धर्म चला गया। उसका धर्म इस आधार, विचार में, है, बाकी

[श्री उइके]

धर्म शब्द का क्या अर्थ है, इसको वह नहीं जानता। धर्म में आपको बतलाऊँ कि जिस हिन्दू जाति के आदिवासी एक ग्राम हैं, वे हिन्दू महादेव को मानते हैं और आदिवासी भी बड़े देव को मानते हैं, महादेव को वे बड़ा देव कहते हैं, महा माने बड़ा होता है और महा से मोटा भी समझा जाता है। धर्म अगर बड़े और मोटे देव को उनसे कहा जाये कि महादेव कहे तो वह समझेंगे कि यह कोई दूसरी चीज हमारे सामने ला रहे हैं, महा शब्द का अर्थ बड़ा है, यह उनको मालूम नहीं है। वे महादेव को किसी द्रव्य भावना से आस्था नहीं करते बल्कि वास्तव में उनको महा शब्द का अर्थ ही नहीं मालूम है और वे समझते हैं कि यह किसी दूसरे देवता की पूजा करने को कहते हैं और ऐसे कह कर यह भेरी जाति लेना चाहता है। लाखों आदिवासियों ने हजारों वर्षों से अपना खून बहाया, पसीना बहाया हजारों मुसीबतें भोगी हैं और अपनी पूजा अर्चा, संस्कृति और आचार, विचार तथा सच्चाई और इमानदारी बचाने के लिये वे जंगलों और पहाड़ों में जाकर रहने लगे हैं। आज उन में इतनी शक्ति और योग्यता नहीं है कि वह अपनी बातें आपके सामने पेश कर सकें किन्तु इन भोले भाले लोगों की निष्कपट वाणी से निकली हुई बातें सबल तथा अर्थ भरी होती हैं तथा दिल को हिला देती हैं। आज यह आदिवासी पहाड़ों और जंगलों में कष्टमय जीवन बिता रहे हैं जहाँ उनकी आर्थिक अवस्था बड़ी ही दर्दनाक है लेकिन वे अपनी संस्कृति और अपनी पूजा, अर्चा की रक्षा करते हुये वहाँ इस तरह का जीवन बिता रहे हैं और इतनी कठिनाइयों के बावजूद प्रसन्न चित्त हैं और कोई चिन्ता नहीं करते, उनको चिन्ता तब व्यापती है जब कोई उनकी पूजा, अर्चा और रहन सहन में फेर बदल करे और तब वह समझते हैं कि उनका सर्वस्व लूटा जा रहा है।

6 P.M.

यहाँ पर मैं मध्य प्रदेश के ३२ लाख

गोंड आदिवासियों की भावना प्रकट कर रहा हूँ। हालाँकि मैं गोंड आदिवासी हूँ लेकिन चूँकि मेरा जन्म महाराष्ट्र के गाँव में हुआ था और मैं चंदन आदि लगाया करता था और पढ़ा लिखा होने के कारण मैं कोट-कमीज आदि पहनता था तो मेरे प्रान्त के भाई लोग जिन्होंने मुझे देखा नहीं या कहते थे कि तुम हिन्दू हो, चंदन लगाते हो, मैंने उनको बतलाया कि भाई मैं तो गोंड भाई हूँ और बड़े देव की पूजा करता हूँ लेकिन उन्होंने नहीं माना और कहने लगे कि तुम्हारी वेष भूषा तो हिन्दुओं की जैसी है तब और कोई चारा न देख कर मैंने चंदन लगाना बंद कर दिया। और पूछा भाई, धर्म में कौन है?, अब तुम मुझे आदिवासी भाई समझो और अपने साथ में लो। उन्होंने कहा, धर्म भी तुम हम से अलग हो। तब मैंने मुगियाँ पालीं। जब मैंने यह किया तो उन्होंने समझा कि यह जरूर आदिवासी हैं, मुगियाँ पालता है। लेकिन इस पर भी पाँच साल तक उन्होंने मेरे हाथ का पानी नहीं पिया और न अपने ही हाथ का पिलाया। उन्होंने कहा कि भले ही तुम मुर्गी पालते हो, लेकिन हम तुम्हें गोंड मानने के लिये तैयार नहीं हैं। हम न अपनी जाति देना चाहते हैं और न तुम्हारी जाति लेना चाहते हैं, इसलिये न हम तुम्हारे हाथ का पानी पियेंगे और न अपने हाथ का पानी तुम को पिलायेंगे। कितने अच्छे और सुन्दर भाव हैं? दूसरे की जाति भी नहीं लेना चाहते और अपनी जाति भी नहीं देना चाहते। ऐसे सीधे सादे और भोले लोगों को समझाने के लिये, यह साबित करने के लिये, कि मैं गोंड हूँ, मुझे पाँच साल का समय लगा और बड़े परिश्रम से उनकी समझ में आया। मुझे दो तीन जिलों के गोंड आदिवासियों को अपने साथ ले कर पाँच साल तक घूमना पड़ा, अपना रहन सहन बदलना पड़ा, उन के अनुसार अपना रहन सहन करना पड़ा, पुराने ढंग के कपड़े पहनने पड़े। तब कहीं जा कर वह मुझ को गोंड मानने के लिये राजी हुये

ऐसे सीधे सादे लोगों के बीच में हमारे ईसाई भाई उन की सेवा करने, दवायें ले कर जाते हैं। बहुत से शहर के लोग कहते हैं कि ईसाई लोग धादिवासियों के ऊपर बड़ा उपकार करते हैं, बड़ी कीमती कीमती दवा ले कर पहाड़ों में जाते हैं। आप भ्रमर गवर्नमेंट की तरफ से जांच करवायें तो पता चलेगा कि जितने दवाखानों सरकार ने धादिवासियों के इलाकों में खोले हैं सब बन्द पड़े हैं। धादिवासी दवाखानों से कोई दवा नहीं लेना चाहते। वह अपनी जड़ी बूटी पर भरोसा करते हैं, दवा की गोली भी नहीं चाहते। इन धादिवासियों के बीच में कुछ ईसाई मिशनरी कीमती कीमती दवाईयां ले कर गये। उन से भले ही कुछ न होता हो, लेकिन आपको कहने के लिये हो जाता है कि वह लोग हमारे बीच में जा कर बड़ी सेवा कर रहे हैं। जो आज धादिवासियों में जा कर उन को शिक्षित कर रहे हैं और उन का सुधार कर रहे हैं मैं उन से प्रार्थना करूंगा कि भ्रमर उनको हमारी सेवा करना है तो, हमें सहायता करने के बजाय, वे हमारा शोषण करना छोड़ दें। भ्रमर वह ऐसा करेंगे तो मैं समझूंगा कि धादिवासियों पर उन का बड़ा भारी उपकार हुआ। यह ईसाई मिशनरी हमारे रहन-सहन, धाचार-विचार और पूजा-धर्मा का शोषण कर के हमारी सच्चाई और ईमानदारी का नाश कर रहे हैं।

मैं आपको बताना चाहता हूँ कि १९४२ में जिस वक्त सारे हिन्दुस्तान में लोग देश को धाजाद करने में लगे हुये थे, उस समय मालूम नहीं क्या हुआ, कौन सी राजनीतिक घटना हुई कि रोमन कैथोलिक मिशन ने बहुत जोरों से धादिवासियों के बीच में धर्म प्रचार करना शुरू किया। उन का तरीका क्या था ? सन् १९४२ में जब सब लोग हिन्दुस्तान की धाजादी की लड़ाई में लगे हुये थे, उस वक्त यह ईसाई धादिवासी इलाकों में पहुंच गये, और उस वक्त की गवर्नमेंट ने उन को इस की इजाजत भी दे दी। मैं मंडला जिले की कहानी

बताता हूँ। वहां २००, २५० मदर्स खुले। वह मामूली मकानों में थे, लेकिन उन के लिये २०-२०, २५-२५ रुपये किराये के दिये जाते थे, लेकिन वह बच्चों के पढ़ाने के मदर्स नहीं थे, वह चर्च थे। जो स्कूल थे उनमें फादर रहा करते थे, फादर को पादरी कहा जाता है। वहां के धादिवासी पादरी का नाम सुन कर डर जाते थे, वह जानते थे पादरी ईसाई होते हैं, और उन के गांव में आ जाने से गांव भ्रष्ट हो जायेगा। गिर्जाघर के नाम से वह समझ जाते थे कि यह वही जगह है जहां ईसाई बनाते हैं। वहां के लोगों के लिये पादरी का नाम बड़े भ्रम का नाम माना जाता था। इसलिये यह रोमन कैथोलिक लोग वहां गये और उन्होंने २००, २५० मदर्स खोले। इन लोगों ने वहां जा कर कहा कि हम पादरी नहीं हैं, हम स्वामी हैं, हमें स्वामी कहो। उन के साथ रांची से उरांव मुंडा ईसाई भी आये हुये थे, वह भी उन्हें स्वामी ही कहते थे। हम ईसाई नहीं हैं, हम रोमन कैथोलिक हैं। वहां के लोगों को कैथोलिक शब्द का अर्थ नहीं मालूम था। उन्होंने भी कहना शुरू कर दिया कि यह ईसाई नहीं है जिन से हम डरते हैं, यह तो कैथोलिक है। और यह गिर्जाघर नहीं है, यह तो हमारे बच्चों के पढ़ने के लिये मदर्स है। साथ ही कैथोलिकों ने यह भी बताया कि तुम्हारी जाति हम कभी नहीं बदलेंगे, हम तुम को अपने हाथ का खान-पीने के लिये नहीं कहते हैं, न हम तुमको अपना खाना पीना देते हैं, हमें तो सिर्फ तुम अपने गांव में रहने दो। तुम अपनी जाति बनाये रहो, सिर्फ अपने लड़कों को हमारे यहां पढ़ने के लिये भेजो। हो गया। जगह दे दी, जिन लोगों को मकानों के लिये २० रु० किराया नहीं मिलता था उन को उस के लिये २० और २५ रुपया मिलने लगा। गांव का जो मुखिया हुआ करता था, मान लीजिये किसी गांव में १०० घर हैं, वह १०० घर जिस एक धादमी को अपना मुखिया बना लेते थे, उस को ही कहने पर चसते थे, उस मुखिया को वह पादरी लोग अपने बहा

[श्री उडके]

में कर लेते थे। उन मुखियों के ऊपर उन पादरियों ने लाखों रुपये पानी की तरह बहा दिये। कुछ भी काम न करते हुये, उस को उन्होंने १०० रु०, २०० रु० महीना देना शुरू किया, सिर्फ इसलिये कि वह गांव का मुखिया था और उस के कहने से गांव के लड़के मदर्स में पढ़ने के लिये आयें। जब वह लड़के मदर्स जाते थे तो उन को गणेश का 'ग' नहीं पढ़ाया जाता था, बल्कि पहले दिन से ही उन को ईसाई धर्म को आयतें पढ़ाई जाती थीं। जो आदिवासी हमेशा से जय राम जी की कहते हैं उन्हें जय ईसू कहना सिखाया जाता था, जिन के चोटी होती थी, उन को चोटी काटी जाती थी और गले में पहनने के लिये मरियम के बिल्ले बाटे जाते थे। जितने लड़के पढ़ते थे, अगर वह जय ईसू कह देते थे तो उन को मिठाई बांटी जाती थी, कपड़े दिये जाते थे। जो आदिवासी होते थे उन को जानवरों का शिकार कर के दिया जाता था और साथ में दारू दे दी जाती थी कि लो पियो। इसी तरह से वे वहां के लोगों को पैसा देने लगे, इस शर्त पर कि वह अपने लड़कों को पढ़ने के लिये मदर्स भेजें। वह कहते कि अगर तुम लड़कों को पढ़ने के लिये भेजोगे तो व्याज छोड़ देंगे और कुछ दिनों के बाद अगर जय ईसू कहने लगोगे तो असल भी छोड़ देंगे। इस प्रकार से अनेक तरह से प्रलोभन दे कर के और किसी-किसी को धमकी भी दे कर कि हमारा राज्य है, ईसाइयों का राजा है, हम तुम को जेल में डाल देंगे, तुम्हारा घर फूंकवा देंगे, उन लोगों को ईसाई धर्म की ओर घसीटा जाने लगा। इस प्रकार से नाना तरीकों से काम लिया गया और जहां पर जय राम जी की हुआ करती थी, वहां पर जय ईसू होने लगी।

मैं आज उस आदमी का नाम लेना चाहता हूँ, हालांकि कई बातों में उसका और मेरा पूर्व और पश्चिम का सम्बन्ध था, लेकिन फिर भी मैं उस डॉ० बेरियर एल्विन क्रो घन्यवाद दूंगा कि उस ने यह पील खोली

कि "रोमन कैथोलिक मिशन आदिवासियों का सत्यानाश कर रहा है, और यह उस जगह पर हो रहा है जो आदिवासी क्षेत्र पार्शियली एक्सक्लूडेड एरिया या एक्सक्लूडेड एरिया है। सन् १९३५ के ऐक्ट के अनुसार कोई धर्म प्रचार करने वाली संस्था वहां जा कर धर्म प्रचार नहीं कर सकती है सरकार को जांच करना चाहिए तो उस को पता चलेगा कि वहां पर ईसाई धर्म का प्रचार करने वालों के द्वारा आदिवासियों की चोटियां काटी गयीं उनको मरियम के बिल्ले बांटे गये और हर प्रकार से उन को ईसाईयत की तरफ घसीटा गया"। इतना ही नहीं। वह यह करते थे कि चार मूर्तियां बनाते थे तीन मूर्तियां तो लकड़ी की हुआ करती थीं और एक घातु की होती थी। पहली तीन मूर्तियों में से एक का नाम भगवान शंकर दिया जाता था एक का भगवान कृष्ण और एक का भगवान राम। उस के बाद चौथी मूर्ति जो कि किसी घातु की होती थी उस का नाम दिया जाता था भगवान मसीह। घातु वाली मूर्ति को ऐसा कोई कलर दिया जाता था कि वह पहली तीन मूर्तियों की तरह ही मालूम होती थी। इस के बाद वह देहात के रहने वालों के पास जा कर कहते थे कि यह भगवान शंकर है, यह भगवान राम है, यह भगवान कृष्ण है और यह भगवान मसीह है। अब इन चारो देवताओं को हम आग में डालते हैं। जो सच्चा देवता होगा वह रहेगा और जो झूठा देवता होगा वह जल जायेगा। लकड़ी के भगवान राम, कृष्ण और शंकर जलकर राख हो जाते थे और मसीह जैसे के जैसे ही निकल आते थे। क्या भोला आदिवासी उनको इस मक्कारी को समझ सकता था? जब ये सारी चीजें गवर्नमेंट के सामने पेश की गयीं तो ब्रिटिश गवर्नमेंट ने सन् १९३५ के ऐक्ट के अनुसार उन की सारी घांट बन्द कर दी, और न जाने भीतर से क्या हुकम गया कि जितने मदरसे चलते थे वे सब बन्द हो गये जो बड़े बड़े बंगले बने हुए थे वे सब बन्द हो गये, एक नार्मल स्कूल जो

६०,००० की ग्रांट से आदिवासियों के लिए बना था वह बन्द हो गया और धोरे धोरे ईसा का जो नाद सुनायी पड़ता था वह बन्द हो गया बच्चों के गलों से मरियम की मूर्तियां हट गयीं और लोगों की चोटियां भी बढ़ने लगीं। अगर वे लोग धर्म को समझकर फिर ईसाई हों तो नुझे कोई आपत्ति नहीं है। अगर वे यह समझ कर धर्म परिवर्तन करें कि ऐसा करने से उनका आचार विचार सुधरेगा उनको ईश्वर जल्दी प्राप्त होगा या उनकी मुक्ति होगी तो मेरी राय में उनके धर्म परिवर्तन में कोई हर्ज नहीं है। लेकिन जो आदिवासी धर्म का नाम तक नहीं समझते उनको इस तरह चालाकी से दूसरे धर्म में डाल देना तो गलत चीज है। तो ब्रिटिश गवर्नमेंट ने इन सारी चीजों को बन्द कर दिया और उसका नतीजा यह हुआ कि सन् १९४७ तक बल्कि सन् १९५० तक हमारे यहां शान्ति रही। लेकिन जब सन् १९५० में २६ जनवरी को हमारा विधान लागू किया गया तो उसमें कहा गया कि हमारा धर्मनिरपेक्ष राज्य है और आदिवासियों के लिए धर्म की कोई पाबन्दी नहीं है। वे किसी धर्म के भी हों आदिवासी ही रहेंगे। यह मालूम होने पर फिर ईसाई बनाने का काम शुरू हो गया। अब उन्होंने यह चालाकी की कि जो आदिवासी जिस जाति का था उसको उसी जाति का रहने दिया जैसे अगर कोई उंराव था तो उसको उंराव रहने दिया अगर कोई मुंडा था तो उसको मुंडा ही रहने दिया परन्तु उनके नाम बदल दिये। अगर किसी का नाम मान सिंह था तो धामस कर दिया या अगर कोई राम सिंह था तो उसे मार्टिन कर दिया। इसका नतीजा यह हुआ कि जो सरकार की तरफ से स्कालरशिप मिलती हैं हमारी उन्नाति के लिए उनमें से अधिकतर इन ईसाई आदिवासियों को मिल जाती हैं। मैं आपको कुछ उदाहरण बतलाना चाहता हूँ। हमारे देश में ३३०६ ६९ लाख आदिवासी हैं। तो मैं आपको बतलाना चाहता हूँ कि ये स्कालरशिप किस तरह से लोगों को मिलते हैं। सन् १९५३-५४ में दो विदेशी स्कालरशिप दिये गये मिस

ओलिव टिप्पू और श्री फेंकलिन टिरकी को ये दोनों विहार के हैं सन् १९५५ व ५६ में चार विदेशी स्कालरशिप इस प्रकार दिये गये : १. श्री ऐं० के० सी० घन बिहार २. श्रीमती एलविन गुहा आसाम ३. मिस डा० एस० हूरू आसाम और ४. डा० मार्टिन एक्का, बिहार। इससे ऐसा मालूम होता है कि मानों बिहार और आसाम में ही आदिवासी रहते हैं और किसी जगह नहीं रहते। ऐसा मालूम होता है कि बाकी जितने प्रदेश हैं उनमें कोई आदिवासी नहीं है। इस तरह से ये लोग विदेश शिक्षा पाने गये और आदिवासियों के लड़के नहीं जा सके। यही हाल उन स्कालरशिपों का हो रहा है जो कि भारत सरकार ने देश में पढ़ने वाले आदिवासियों के लिए दिये हैं। आप इस लिस्ट को देखें तो आपको मालूम होगा कि जो आदिवासी बालक दूसरे इलाकों में पढ़ते हैं उनके नाम हैं अजित सिंह मधुकर आदि लेकिन जो मध्यदेश के छात्र रांची के कालेज में हैं उनके नाम इस प्रकार हैं : १. एलफोंग कुजूर २. ब्लेसियस एक्का ३. पोलस लकरा ४. एलाइस बारा ५. जान करकेटा ६. सेबेस्चियन कजूर ७. डोमिनिक टिरकी और ८. लारेंस एक्का। पर इन लोगों की जाति ओराबं ही दिखलायी गयी है इस तरह से ५६ स्कालरशिपस में से ३४ इन लोगों को मिल गये हैं और ये रांची कालिज में ही हैं। ये लोक कनवर्टेड हैं यह तो इनके नाम से ही मालूम होता है। यह बात आपको जबलपुर, नागपुर और रायपुर के कालेजों में नहीं मिलेगी। वहां पर तो आदिवासी लड़कों के ऐसे नाम हैं जैसे मधुकर या अजय घन आदि। इसके विपरीत आप देखेंगे कि जो लड़के रांची कालिज में आदिवासियों के हैं वे सारे जान मार्टिन आदि हैं। सन् १९४४-४५ से सन् १९५० तक हमारे यहां यह बात बन्द रही और शान्ति रही लेकिन चूंकि हमारे संविधान में यह लिखा गया है कि अब यह धर्मनिरपेक्ष राज्य रहेगा और आदिवासी चाहे किसी धर्म के हों कोई फर्क नहीं पड़ेगा, तब से

[श्री उदके]

यह काम फिर शुरू हो गया है जो बंगले खाली हो गये थे वे फिर भर गये हैं और जो ईसूका जय जयकार होने लगा है। अब तो वहां यह कहते हैं कि अब जात पात और छुआछूत कोई चीज नहीं रह गयी है जो आदिवासी समझते हैं कि अब इस राज्य में कोई धर्म नहीं रहा है और सब धर्मों के आदमी आदिवासी रह सकते हैं। उनसे कहा जाता है कि अगर कोई छूतछात मानेगा तो उसको जेल होगी क्योंकि ऐसा संविधान में लिखा है। ये चीजें उन लोगों के सामने रखी जाती हैं। वह लोग देखते हैं कि ईसाई आदिवासियों के लड़कों को स्कालरशिप मिलते हैं तो वे सोचते हैं कि यदि हम भी अपना धर्म बदल लें तो हमको भी ये सुविधायें मिल सकती हैं।

भाजकल यह होता है कि अगर किसी आदिवासी का लड़का मेट्रिक पास कर लेता है तो आपके कानून के अनुसार उसको डिस्ट्रिक्ट मजिस्ट्रेट के पास जाना पड़ता है ताकि वह उसकी तस्दीक कर दें। उसके बाद ही उसकी नौकरी या स्कालरशिप मिलने में सुविधा मिल सकती है। ऐसा करने में उसे बड़ी मुसीबत होती है। उनकी इस कठिनाई का यह मिशनरी फायदा उठाते हैं। उनके आदमी आदिवासी इलाकों में भ्रमते हैं जिनको कि वे तनक्वाह देते हैं। वे लोग ऐसे लड़कों की तलाश में रहते हैं जिनको कि किसी तरह की मदद की आवश्यकता हो। वे उनसे पूछते हैं कि तुमको किसी तरह की मदद चाहिए और उनको वह मदद देते हैं। अगर उनको पैसा चाहिए तो उनको पैसा देते हैं, और यहां तक करते हैं कि उनको लड़कियां भी देते हैं और इस तरह से उनको प्रलोभन दिया जाता है। तो मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि आप किस तरीके से हमारे धर्म-परिवर्तन को रोक सकते हैं इस पर विचार करें। मैं यह नहीं कहता कि कोई धर्म परिवर्तन न करे। अगर कोई किसी धर्म को वास्तव में अच्छा समझता है तो वह उसमें चला जाये, मुझे कोई आपत्ति नहीं है, लेकिन किसी को लालच देकर या

उसकी कठिनाई का लाभ उठाकर ऐसा न कराया जाये। हमारे आदिवासी भाज हजारों साल से हिन्दुओं से अलग होकर अपने आचार विचार की रक्षा करते हुए पहाड़ों में रह रहे हैं लेकिन क्या कारण है कि भाज वे सब एक दम ईसू का जय जयकार करने लगते हैं और अपनी चोटी कटाने लगते हैं। क्या ये लोग मैदानों को छोड़कर जंगलों में सुख के लिए गये थे? नहीं, वे वहां अपने रहन सहन और आचार की रक्षा करने के लिए गये थे और वहां क्या हो रहा है? हम देखते हैं कि आपका विधान भाज हमारा सत्यानाश कर रहा है। अगर आप जात-पात नहीं मानते तो न मांयें, हम भी नहीं मानेंगे, लेकिन इस ओर तो आप ध्यान दें कि जो कुछ आप हम आदिवासियों की उन्नति के लिए देते हैं वह हमको नहीं मिलता, दूसरे उसे ले जाते हैं।

अभी हमारे यहां नागपुर में इसाइयों का एक "एन्क्वायरी" नाम का पेंपर निकला है। मैं ने अपने यहां की सरकार को रिपोर्ट दी थी कि सालेबंडा गांव में आदिवासियों को बहुत सताया जा रहा है। उस पर जांच की गयी। एक गांव में ७ मकान के ईसाई आदिवासी थे और ३७ मकान उस गांव में आदिवासियों के थे। मिशनरी लोग उस गांव में गये और आदिवासियों को रोब बताने लगे। उन्होंने वहां कहना शुरू किया अब जात पात नहीं रही है और अगर कोई छूत छात मानेगा तो उसको सजा होगी। इसका नतीजा यह हुआ कि ईसाई आदिवासी लोग आदिवासियों की शादी आदि में उनका खाना छू लेते थे और उसको खराब कर देते थे। इस प्रकार जब उनको बहुत कष्ट हुआ तो वे गांव छोड़ने लगे। उस समय मेरे पास कुछ आदमी धाये। मैं ने मुख्य मंत्री से शिकायत की और उन्होंने जांच करवाई। दो डिप्टी कमिश्नरों ने जांच की और उनको मालूम हुआ कि आदिवासियों को देवी देवताओं को उठाकर फेंक दिया गया था और कई मर्तबा शादी आदि

में तनका खाना बरबाद कर दिया गया था । और लोगों को भूखा वापस आना पड़ा था । यह सरकारी जांच का नतीजा निकला । अब हमारे पास तो पैसा नहीं है, जो मुकदमा चलायें । इन मिशनरियों के पास बहुत पैसा है । ये प्रचार कर सकते हैं, तरह तरह के स्टेटमेंट देते हैं । और हर तरह से अपने मामले की पैरवी कर सकते हैं । इन्होंने अभी इन्क्वायरी पेपर निकाला है उसमें—जसपुर के ट्राइबल्स के बारे में पेपर नंबर २ सफा ५ पर लिखा है कि दो साल में २० हजार आदिवासी ईसाई हो गये । इसमें इस प्रकार लिखा है :

It was a case of mass conversion within 2 or 3 years from 1907; about 20,000 were converted in 2 years.

लेकिन जब इन मिशनरियों को यह मालूम हुआ कि इस मामले की चर्चा मेंबर लोग पार्लियामेंट में करने लगे हैं तो उन्होंने लिखा कि ये २० हजार लोग हिन्दुओं से परेशान होकर उनके पास ईसाई होने गये थे और ये लोग समझते थे कि ऐसा करने से इनका आचार विचार अच्छा होगा । यह कहा गया है कि ये लोग हिन्दुओं से मुक्ति पाने के लिए पादरियों के पास गये थे । उनसे पादरियों ने कहा है कि अगर तुमको ईसाई बनना है तो हम तुमको ईसाई कर लेंगे लेकिन हम तुमको किसी तरह की सुविधा नहीं दे सकते, हम तुमको कोई खास सहायता नहीं कर सकते । शायद सब माननीय सदस्यों को इस पेपर की कापियां भेजी गई हैं । ऐसा शायद इसीलिए किया गया है कि लोक-सभा के बहुत से माननीय सदस्यों को आदिवासियों के धर्म परिवर्तन के असली कारण मालूम नहीं रहते हैं, उन्हें मिशनरियों का धर्म परिवर्तन करने का काम निर्दोष दिखे ।

मैं पार्लियामेंट के जितने माननीय सदस्य-गण हैं उनको बतलाना चाहता हूँ कि हमारे आदिवासी भाई जो हजारों सालों से पहाड़ों

और जंगलों में रह रहे हैं और किसी प्रकार अब तक हिन्दू धर्म के एक भ्रंग बने हुए हैं और अपनी संस्कृति और रहन-सहन की रक्षा करते आए हैं, उनकी ओर आपको ध्यान देना चाहिए और साथ ही यह भी सावधानी बतानी चाहिए कि कहीं वह बहका कर और फूसला कर ईसाई या और धर्म में तबदील तो नहीं किये जा रहे हैं और ऐसा न हो कि वे अपने हिन्दू भाइयों से इतने परेशान हो जायें कि वे अपना धर्म तबदील करने पर विवश हो जायें और ईसाई बन जायें । हमें इस समस्या पर गम्भीरता से विचार करना है और इस अपने भ्रंग को अपने से भ्रमण नहीं करना चाहिए । हमारे देहातों में जो भाई रहते हैं वे बहुत भोले और अपढ़ हैं और चूंकि आज उनकी आर्थिक अवस्था बहुत ही शोचनीय है, इसलिए ईसाई मिशनरीज उनको सबज बाग दिखला कर और धन का लालच देकर उनको ईसाई बनाने का प्रयत्न करते हैं और इस वास्ते यह जो धर्म परिवर्तन के रजिस्ट्रेशन का विधेयक लाया गया है उसका मैं दिल से स्वागत करता हूँ । मैं अपने हिन्दू भाइयों से अपील करूंगा कि अगर आपको इन १ करोड़ ६१ लाख आदिवासियों को अपने में बनाये रखना है तो आपको उसके लिए अभी से आवश्यक कार्य-वाही करनी होगी और उनको दशा सुधारने की ओर ध्यान देना होगा ।

अभी थोड़े दिन हुए हमारे उप-गृह मंत्री महोदय ने यह कहा था कि विधान के अनुसार आदिवासी धर्म परिवर्तन करने के बाद भी आदिवासी रहेगा और उससे कोई फर्क नहीं आयेगा तो मैं उनको बतलाना चाहता हूँ कि आदिवासी इन बातों को नहीं समझते और उनको मंत्री महोदय के इस स्टेटमेंट से बड़ी निराशा हुई है और वह ऐसा महसूस करने लगे हैं कि उनका कोई मां, बाप नहीं है और वे ऐसा समझेंगे कि चलो अब तो सब धर्म एक है फिर ईसाई क्यों न बन जाओ, वहाँ बच्चों की पढ़ाई का भी माफूस इन्तजाम

[श्री उदके]

हो जायेगा, नौकरी भी आसानी से मिल जायेगी और ईसाई बनने से पैसा भी मिलेगा। मुझे डर है कि अगर उनको रोका न गया तो सारे आदिवासियों को ईसाई बनते पांच या दस साल से अधिक समय नहीं लगेगा क्योंकि आज वे बिलकुल उपेक्षित पड़े हैं और बावजूद इसके कि हम जो उनके प्रतिनिधि लोग हैं यहां पर काफी समय से उनकी कठिनाइयों और समस्याओं को पेश करते रहे हैं और सरकार का उनकी ओर ध्यान दिलाते रहे हैं लेकिन उनकी जैसी हालत थी, वैसी बनी हुई है और उसमें कोई सुधार नहीं हो पाया है और हो सकता है कि उनमें इससे इतनी निराशा का भाव भर जाये कि वे हिम्मत छोड़ दें और ईसाई बनना शुरू कर दें और यदि ऐसा हुआ तो बड़ी दुर्भाग्यपूर्ण बात होगी। इसलिए मैं तो हाउस के तमाम लोगों से चाहे वे हिन्दू हों, मुसलमान हों या ईसाई भाई हों अपील करूंगा कि यह इंसानियत का तकाजा है कि जो दुखी हैं और मुसीबत में जकड़े हुए हैं उनकी मदद की जाये और उनकी अवस्था में सुधार करने का प्रयत्न किया जाये। सच्चा मानव धर्म यही है कि बिना किसी प्रकार के राजनैतिक स्वार्थ के या और किसी स्वार्थ के हर एक धर्मावलम्बी को इन मुसीबतजनक और पिछड़े हुए अभागे आदिवासी भाइयों की सहायता करनी चाहिए और उनको ऊपर उठाने का प्रयत्न करना चाहिए।

Shri G. H. Deshpande: I rise to congratulate my hon. friend Shri Jethalal Joshi for having brought before this House this very important subject. I am one of those who believe in secularism. I am one of those who believe in the principle of "*sarva dharma samanatva*". I do want that in India there should be no misunderstanding on account of religion between citizens and citizens. At the same time I do not want to undermine the humanitarian work that has

been done in this country by a number of Christians. I come from a City where for a number of years I was associated with an institution which was looked after and developed by a missionary lady. Her name was Miss R. Harvey. She worked in Nasik for fifty years. A more sincere social worker than her I have never come across. There have been such genuine social workers among the Christians, and even today there might be some. I do not want to discourage them. I do not want to say that the other Christian missionaries who came over here did so with certain other motives, but at the same time, through you and through this House I would like to tell all the missionaries in the world that they must realise that today India is a free nation. We are a self-respecting people. No doubt for centuries there have been people amongst us who have been labouring under very hard conditions, but should we allow them to be exploited by interested parties? Are they not human beings? If you want to serve, do serve them. But why do you associate this matter of conversion with service? Service must be pure. Service must be disinterested.

And what do we find during the last eight years? If there were certain things taking place before 1947, we were not responsible for it, because then the foreign Government was there and they encouraged certain activities. But, as I have said, there were many good Christians. But today what has happened? What have we seen from the records which were placed before the House by Shri Jethalal Joshi. Shri Jethalal Joshi is a man who does not want to criticise anybody for nothing. He is the last man who will speak without any authority. Such a sincere worker like him, having studied the subject, has placed before this hon. House the material which ought to be taken notice of. I would request through you the hon. Home Minister to study carefully the speech of my hon. friend Shri Jethalal Joshi.

We do not want to create any misunderstanding in the Christian world. We want to be friendly with everybody. We want to appreciate the Christian ideals also. I am a Hindu. I believe in Hinduism, but I do know that Christianity has rendered good service to humanity and many things can be learnt from it. Did not Mahatma Gandhi teach us many lessons? I have not come across any follower of Christ better than Gandhiji, though he was not a Christian and to the last moment was a Hindu.

I look at it from this point of view. There is a possibility that some misunderstanding may be created. Some unfriendly attitude may be interpreted out of this discussion. I want to say that nothing of that kind should be done. That is not the motive. We do not want to have any drive against the Christians. Let there be Christians. They are as good citizens as ourselves. There is nothing against the Christians here. Even Christian missionaries from other countries are welcome to this country. That is our old tradition. But why should they try to dabble in politics? There is a political motive behind this conversion. It is not merely religious, there is a political motive behind it. What we suspect is that there are some imperialist powers who are not free even today from their dreams of imperialism. They probably think there was a Pakistan, why should there not be in India a Christianstan even? They want to see that India should not develop politically. They are not very glad to see the development that we are carrying on. So, political motives are there.

And why this exploitation of religion? I would appeal to every enlightened citizen in India, be he a Christian, be he a Hindu, be he a Muslim, should we allow this thing to go on? Is it not the duty of us all to put a stop to it? And especially I would appeal to the Christians in this country. Christianity is a thing which stands on a much higher level. Is it a thing in the market place?

Should we see degradation brought about to it by certain people working under certain motives? It would only harm Christianity and do it no good.

India is sufficiently enlightened. I would like to tell through this House and through you to all those who are indulging in such activities that they are not going to gain. They should open their eyes. India is not what it was before 1947, and if there are some friends who want to take undue advantage of our secularism, they must realise that this will not be tolerated in this self-respecting country. We are not blind in taking up secularism. We have done so after mature consideration, and we are proud for having stood by secularism. That is the only thing which an enlightened nation can adopt. But at the same time, we are self-respecting people. Any body can come and convert. But they must do it openly, and say, we are here for doing conversion. Let them carry on the work openly, and let them do it in a manly manner. Why should they resort to underhand practices? Why should they give medicine to a man and then tell him, you accept my religion? Why should they call a boy to a school, give him some money, and then convert him? These are not things worth the name of Christianity. If they want to convert, if they want to convince some people that Christianity is better, we have no objection; I shall have no objection; and Government will give them free scope, and I am one of those who say that Government should give them free scope. But these mischievous things and the way they are done are highly objectionable from the point of view of the manliness of our citizens.

Why should we allow our citizens to remain in such a degraded condition that anybody could exploit them for these purposes? I would like to say that I support this Bill, and I do so not because I am a Hindu, but because I believe that it is a step to-

[Shri G. H. Deshpande]

wards asserting the self-respect of humanity. We should not allow our poverty to be exploited by people who want to do things with ulterior motives. That is why I support this Bill. I do not know what attitude Government would take, but I earnestly urge Government to take a serious view of this matter. There is growing public opinion in favour of this.

I myself have gone to some localities of the Adivasis in my district, and I have seen these things. And we have worked amongst the Adivasis, and therefore it has now become impossible for these mischievous people to carry on activities of that type; they have already run away from those localities. But people must come and try to settle amongst the Adivasis, and we must raise them to a standard wherein it will be too much for them to stand this sort of non-sense.

So, I support this Bill from these points of view.

श्री टंडन (जिला इलाहाबाद—पश्चिम):
श्री जी भाषण हुए उन को सुन कर मेरे हृदय में यह भावना है कि जो विधेयक हमारे सामने उपस्थित किया गया है, उस के पीछे बहुत अच्छे कारण हैं। इस पर हमारे उपमंत्री जी, जो यहां उपस्थित हैं, क्या करेंगे, यह तो मैं नहीं जानता, लेकिन उन से, उन की गवर्नमेंट से तथा यहां के सदस्यों से मेरा यह कथन है कि जो कारण बताये गये हैं उन कारणों के अतिरिक्त हम सबों को भी इन मिशनरी पादरियों का अनुभव है। उन सब बातों को, जानते हुए, उन का अनुभव करते हुए, यह उचित है कि हम इस प्रकार से अपने देश के लोगों को दूसरे देश के लोगों द्वारा दूसरे धर्मों में जाने से बचावें।

यह ठीक है कि हमारे संविधान में इस बात की छूट है कि जो पुरुष या नारी किसी दूसरे धर्म में जाना चाहे वह जा सके, दूसरे धर्म के लोगों को अपने धर्म के प्रचार का भी

अवसर हमारे यहां दिया गया है। साथ ही संविधान का यह भी अभिप्राय है कि वहां हमें यह दिखाई पड़े कि इस धर्म परिवर्तन के पीछे छल-कपट है उसे हम रोक सकते हैं। किसी गवर्नमेंट को जिस में नैतिकता का आदर है, जो डरपोक नहीं है, किसी दूसरे देश से डरती नहीं है, इस प्रकार की अनुचित बातें सहन नहीं करनी चाहियें। हमें इस विषय के भीतर घुस कर, जो ऐसे बुरे मार्ग हैं लोगों के धर्म परिवर्तन कराने के लिये उन को रोकना है।

डा० एल्विन ने जो बातें कई वर्ष पहले अपने अनुभव से लिखी थीं, उन को हम लोग पहले भी कुछ पढ़ चुके हैं और इधर भी हम सदस्यों को एक पुस्तिका बांटी गई है, जिस को देखने का मुझे अवसर मिला। वह बहुत भयावह है, बहुत डरावनी है। डा० एल्विन का जो अपना अनुभव है इन मिशनरियों के बारे में उस से यह प्रकट है कि यह लोग जो काम करते हैं, उन में से कुछ अच्छे लोग भी हैं, सज्जन भी हैं, लेकिन उन में बहुत लोग ऐसे हैं जो ईसाई बनाने के लिये छल कपट का सहारा लेते हैं।

श्री हमारे एक भाई ने कहा कि वह आदिवासी हैं। आदिवासियों में ईसाई मिशनरी किस तरह से काम कर रहे हैं, यह उन्होंने बताया। अपने को स्वामी बताना, जैसा उन्होंने कहा कि ये स्वामी बन कर जाते हैं, इस का क्या अर्थ है? मैं ने भी पहले देखा था कि एक दूसरी संस्था के लोग थे, सैल्वेशन आर्मी के लोग, वह भी साधू का वेश रख कर जाते थे। जैसे हमारे यहां साधू सन्यासी हुंम्रा करते हैं, उसी प्रकार वह भी गांव-गांव का दौरा करते थे। इसमें सन्देह नहीं कि वह यह सब काम सवा के रूप में करते हैं, ऐसी-ऐसी जगहों पर पहुंचते हैं, जहां हमारे आदिमियों का जाना कठिन होता है। वह लोग धिन्ना भी देते हैं। हम लोगों ने सुना कि किस प्रकार से वह पैसा बांटते हैं। लेकिन इन सब का

असली तात्पर्य यह होता है कि वहकिसी तरह से लोगों को ईसाई बना सके। डा० एलविन ने अपने वक्तव्य में बहुत बल के साथ कहा है कि यहाँ यह ईसाई जो बातें कर रहे हैं वह दूसरे देशों में बाहर के लोग नहीं कर पाते। उन्होंने हालैड की मिसाल दी और बताया कि यहाँ पर डच मिशनरी बहुत फल रहे हैं और घुसे हुए काम कर रहे हैं, वे स्वयम् हालैड में वह बातें नहीं कर सकते जो यहाँ करते हैं। यह छल-कपट का रास्ता हमें बन्द करना है। डा० एलविन ने अपना वक्तव्य शायद सन् १९४४ या ४५ में लिखा था। मुझे ठीक याद नहीं है। उस समय उन्होंने यह विश्वास प्रकट किया था कि जब इस देश की अपनी गवर्नमेंट आवेगी तब वह इन बातों को रोकेंगी और जो बातें आज हो रही हैं उन की अनुमति कभी नहीं देगी। आज मुझे ऐसा लगता है कि इन पादरियों के काम में, हमारी स्वतंत्रता के आने से बाद भी, छल-कपट बन्द नहीं हुआ और ईसाई होने वालों की संख्या बढ़ती जाती है।

इसका यह कारण नहीं है कि जनता में कोई धर्म परिवर्तन की लालसा बढ़ती जाती है। असल बात यह है कि ये मिशनरी इन लोगों की गरीबी का बहुत बड़ा फायदा उठा रहे हैं। हमारा देश गरीब है, आदिवासी भी गरीब हैं और हरिजन भी गरीब हैं। इन आदिवासियों और हरिजनों की गरीबी का ये लोग बेजा फायदा उठाते हैं। अभी जो भाई जेठा लाल जी ने पढ़ा वह मैं ने सुना। उन्होंने बतलाया कि उत्तर प्रदेश में जो चमारों की ५ लाख की संख्या है उस पर इन मिशनरियों की निगाह लगी हुई है। वे समझते हैं कि ये हरिजन उनकी खुराक हैं। जेठा लाल जी ने और भी समूहों के नाम गिनाये हैं जिन पर इनकी निगाह है और जिनके बारे में इनकी मान्यता है कि ये गरीब लोग हैं, हिन्दू धर्म इनको अच्छी तरह अपनाता नहीं है, तो हम ही क्यों न इनको घसीट कर ले आवें और ईसाई बनावें। मेरा कहना है कि हमें इस

बात को रोकना है। हमने हिम्मत करके यह फैसला किया है कि हम अछूतपन बन्द करेंगे और उसका परिणाम यह हुआ कि आज हमारे देश में अछूतपन बन्द हो गया। यह ठीक है कि वह नियम द्वारा बन्द किया गया है, और अभी भी कहीं कहीं देहातों में कुछ बना हुआ है। इसका कारण यही है कि यह बहुत पुरानी प्रथा है एक दम से नहीं जा सकती। लेकिन अब हमारी सरकार का यह कर्तव्य है कि वह इस तरह के छल कपट से लोगों का धर्म परिवर्तन न होने दे। इसमें कोई संकुचित धार्मिक भावना की बात नहीं है। इसका बहुत गहरा राजनीतिक प्रभाव पड़ता है। यह नहीं मूलना चाहिए। डा० एलविन ने स्वयं इस बात पर बल दिया है कि जिनका इस प्रकार के धर्म परिवर्तन किया जाता है उन पर दूसरे प्रकार के राजनीतिक असर पड़ते हैं और देश में नये नये प्रकार के अल्प-संख्यक समूह बन जाते हैं जो भिन्न भिन्न प्रकार के अधिकारों की मांग करते हैं।

जो हमारे यहाँ ईसाई भाई हैं हम उनका आदर करते हैं और जो दूसरे धर्म वाले हैं उनका भी हम आदर करते हैं। हमारा देश तो इस विषय में सदा से बड़ा उदार रहा है। यह खाली सनातनधर्मियों का ही देश नहीं है। यहाँ सब धर्मों के लोग हैं। हमारे यहाँ प्राचीन समय से लोग अलग अलग मतों के अनुसार चलते रहे हैं। परन्तु यह उनका स्वतंत्र मत होता था वे लोग स्वतंत्रता के साथ इन मतों के अनुसार चलते थे। हमारा तो यह कथन रहा है : "नास्ति मुनिर्यस्य मतिर्न भिन्ना।" यह हमारी दुर्बलता का एक कारण भी हो सकता है, लेकिन यह हमारा बड़प्पन भी बतलाता है कि इस बारे में हमने कोई रोकथाम नहीं की। मुनियों में भी आपस में मतभेद रहा है। स्मृतियों में भी भेद रहा है। इस प्रकार हमारे यहाँ परिवर्तन होते रहे हैं। लेकिन अपनी संख्या बढ़ाने के लिए, घोखाघड़ी से लोगों का धर्म परिवर्तन किया जाये और उनको हमारे देश की संस्कृति

[श्री टंडन]

से अलग कर दिया जाय, यह बहुत ही भयावह है और इसका एक राजनीतिक पहलू भी है। यह केवल सामाजिक प्रश्न नहीं है। इसलिए हमको यह उचित लगता है कि इस और हमारी सरकार ध्यान दे। यदि इस बिल में हमारे मंत्रियों को कुछ बदलने की आवश्यकता प्रतीत हो तो वे इसमें संशोधन कर सकते हैं। मुझे तो यह बिल बहुत सीधा सादा लगता है। अगर सरकार जरूरत समझे तो कुछ परिवर्तन कर ले।

इस बिल में यह कहा गया है कि यदि कोई अपना धर्म परिवर्तन करना चाहे तो पहले वहाँ के अधिकारी को इसकी सूचना दे दे। अगर वह सचमुच धर्म परिवर्तन करना चाहता है तो उस के लिए इस बिल में कोई रोक नहीं है। हाँ ! जो लोग छिपकर काम करने वाले हैं उनको यह बात पसन्द नहीं आयेंगी। नहीं तो इस में तो यह सीधी सी बात है कि जो धर्म परिवर्तन करना चाहे वह पहले से उनकी सूचना दे दे, और जो धार्मिक धर्म परिवर्तन कराने में हिस्सा लेना चाहता है, चाहे वह पादरी हो या कोई दूसरा हो, जो इस काम में मदद देना चाहता है, कोई किताब पढ़ा कर या कोई रस्म करा के, उसको भी पहले ऐसा करने की अनुमति लेनी होगी। उसको इस बात के लिए आज्ञा लेनी होगी कि वह धर्म परिवर्तन कराने में भाग ले सके। मुझे ऐसा नहीं लगता कि इस बिल में कोई आपत्तिजनक बात है।

पादरी लोग सब पैसे वाले हैं। विजायत से अमरीका से और दूसरे देशों से पैसे पास पैसा आता है। ये लोग इस पैसे का यह उपयोग करते हैं कि हमारे गरीब भाइयों को तहकाकर उनका धर्म परिवर्तन करा लेते हैं। ये लोग इन गरीब लोगों को कुछ धन का फायदा करा देते हैं या पैसा दे देते हैं और इनका धर्म परिवर्तन करा लेते हैं। डा० एलविन ने भी यह लिखा है कि ये लोग उनको कर्ज

देते हैं और थोड़ी थोड़ी सुविधा देकर धीरे इनको ईसाई बना लेते हैं। हमको यह बरदाश्त नहीं करना चाहिए कि कोई धार्मिक धर्म और पैसे का लोभ देकर हमारे यहाँ के धार्मिकों का धर्म परिवर्तन कर दे। हमारी गवर्नमेंट को इस विषय में सचेत होने की आवश्यकता है। मैं समझता हूँ कि यह बिल जो उसके सामने पेश है बहुत उचित है। उसकी बातें बहुत सीधी सी हैं। उसमें केवल दो तीन तो बातें ही हैं। एक यह है कि जो धर्म परिवर्तन करना चाहे वह पहले इसकी सूचना अधिकारी को दे दे, दूसरी यह कि धर्म परिवर्तन कराने वाला अधिकारी व्यक्ति हो, अर्थात् राज्य के किसी अधिकारी से उस को यह अधिकार मिला हो कि वह यह काम करा सकता है। तीसरी यह है कि जिन का धर्म परिवर्तन होता है उनका एक रजिस्टर रखा जाय। यही तीन बातें इस बिल में मुख्य हैं। मैं नहीं समझता कि इनमें कोई ऐसी बात है जिसको अनुचित कहा जा सके। यह सब संविधान के भीतर है। संविधान उनको सुभीता देता है

Shri Kanavade Patil (Ahmednagar North): There is no need for conversion now-a-days in India.

श्री टंडन: आप कहते हैं कि धर्म परिवर्तन करने की अब कोई आवश्यकता नहीं है। यह प्रश्न तो किसी व्यक्ति के धर्म का है, जिसका हम और आप फँसला नहीं कर सकते। अगर किसी को ऐसा लगता है कि उसे ईसाई बनना चाहिए, तो आपका यह कहना पर्याप्त नहीं होगा कि इसकी आवश्यकता नहीं है। मैं आशा करता हूँ कि आप मेरी हिन्दी समझते हैं। मैं तो आपकी अंग्रेजी समझ गया। आपने मुझे अंग्रेजी भाषा में यह समझाया है कि अब धर्म परिवर्तन की कोई आवश्यकता नहीं है। लेकिन इससे कोई प्रश्न हल नहीं होगा। हमने इस विषय में अपने संविधान में छूट दे दी है। अगर आप हिन्दू से ईसाई हों

चाहें तो हो सकते हैं लेकिन हम इस बात की रोक कर सकते हैं कि आपको कोई छल कपट में, धोखा देकर ईसाई न बनावे।

यह नियम सब के लिए लागू है, केवल ईसाइयों के ही लिए नहीं है। अगर कोई हिन्दू किसी ईसाई को हिन्दू बनाना चाहेगा तो उस पर भी यह नियम लागू होगा। अगर हमारा कोई हिन्दू धर्म का प्रचार करने वाला जायेगा तो उस पर भी यह नियम लागू होगा। यह कोई ईसाइयों के लिए ही नहीं है। कोई धोखाधड़ी नहीं होने दी जायेगी। जिसको हिन्दू होना है वह डंके की चोट हिन्दू होगा, वह कहेगा कि मुझे हिन्दू धर्म स्वीकार है इसलिए मैं हिन्दू होना चाहता हूँ। इसी प्रकार जो ईसाई होना चाहेगा वह डंके की चोट ईसाई हो सकेगा यह आवश्यकता का प्रश्न नहीं है। यह तो अपने अपने मत की बात है। हमारे देश में सदा मत की स्वतंत्रता रही है, लेकिन हम छल कपट नहीं होने देंगे। छल कपट में छोटे छोटे बच्चों तक को यहाँ ईसाई बनाया जाता रहा है। मुझे आशा है कि हमारे उप-मंत्री जी इस पर ध्यान देंगे और गवर्नमेंट इस पर ध्यान देगी।

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Shri Thomas.

श्री पी० एन० राजभोज : मुझे केवल दो मिनट बोलने का अवसर दिया जाय, बोर्डयूल्ड कास्ट्स के बारे में मैं दो एक बात कहना चाहता हूँ।

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I have called Shri Thomas.

Shri A. M. Thomas: I oppose this Bill though it has been brought before this House by a Member belonging to my party and though it has been supported by three other distinguished Members of my party. My predecessor, Shri Deshpande, was pleased to make an observation: 'if you want to convert a person, straightaway get a licence and then say, we are here to convert.' If a Christian is there to

convert, like a licenced in medicine, he should get a licence. There can be nothing more degrading than to suggest that a person professing the Christian religion should get a licence if he wants to profess that religion and preach that religion.

An Hon. Member: That is for all religions.

Shri A. M. Thomas: I repeat that there is nothing more degrading. The hon. Members who have preceded me have travelled very much beyond the scope of the Bill. What exactly is the scope of the Bill and what exactly does the Bill suggest?

I do not for a moment approve of some of the instances that have been pointed by the learned Mover of the Bill if they are true. There will not be anybody who will not condemn such practices among from Christians.

But what exactly does he want to achieve by the provisions of this Bill? I oppose this Bill on three or four main points: on the ground of public policy, that this Bill is against the Constitution and that this Bill, if enacted, would be infructuous and will not achieve the object which the hon. Mover of the Bill wants to achieve.

I would also oppose this Bill on another ground that the Government has already got the power to check undesirable practices. It has exercised that power as will be seen by the latest administration report of the Ministry of Home Affairs.

I will first take up the point regarding public policy. Our country has prided itself that we have—for centuries past, perhaps from the dawn of civilization—in India, observed absolute religious neutrality and religious tolerance. That has been our pride and it is also our pride that when we enacted the Constitution and gave it to ourselves we have guaranteed absolute freedom of conscience. These are some of the things on which we pride ourselves.

Shri Tek Chand (Ambala-Simla): Not freedom to coerce.

Shri A. M. Thomas: I will come to that; my learned friend need not be anxious about that.

My hon. friend—the Mover of the Bill—was suggesting that there were provisions to register births, deaths—then why not for conversions? (*An Hon. Member: Marriages*). May I respectfully ask: is there any law anywhere in the world providing for registration of conversions. (*Inter-ruptions.*)

An Hon. Member: Are there anywhere conversions on such a large scale?

Shri A. M. Thomas: Is there any such law?

An Hon. Member: What is wrong about it?

Shri A. M. Thomas: If there is nothing wrong about it, woe to it. Article 25 of the Constitution says:

“Subject to public order, morality and health and to the other provisions of this Part, all persons are equally entitled to freedom of conscience and the right freely to profess, practise and propagate religion.”

Sir, you know that the enactment of this article had a background of its own. I believe you would not have forgotten that a point of view was put forward, when this article was discussed, that the right to propagate a religion cannot be given. One hon. Member of the Constituent Assembly who is a Member of this House put forward that view. This is what he said:

“If people should propagate their religion, let them do so. Only I crave let not the Constitution put it as a fundamental right and encourage it. Fundamental rights are inalienable and once they are admitted it will create bad blood.”

Even though that objection was raised the framers of the Constitution deliberately incorporated that article without deleting word ‘propagate’.

Here I am tempted to read some of the observations of the late Pandit Lakshmi Kanta Maitra when he was speaking on the article. He said:

“The Indian Christian community happens to be the most inoffensive community in the whole of India. That is my personal opinion and I have never known anybody contesting that proposition. This Indian Christian community, so far as I am aware, spend to the tune of nearly Rs. 2 crores every year for educational uplift, medical relief and for sanitation, public health and the rest of it. Look at the numerous educational institutions, dispensaries and hospitals they have been running so effectively and efficiently, catering to all classes and communities. If this vast amount of Rs. 2 crores were utilised by this Christian community for purposes of seeking converts, then the Indian Christian community which comprises only 70 millions would have gone up to...”

Then the Vice-President intervened and said: “You are mistaken there: it is only 7 millions.” Then Pandit Lakshmi Kanta Maitra said:

“I beg your pardon. From 7 millions it would have gone to 70 millions.”

Then, Sir, one distinguished Member of our Cabinet, Shri T. T. Krishnamachari, while supporting Pandit Lakshmi Kanta Maitra, observed as follows:

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Pandit Lakshmi Kanta Maitra referred to Indian Christians.

Shri A. M. Thomas: Yes, Indian Christians, also.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Pandit Lakshmi Kanta Maitra says that our Indian Christian brothers are all good.

Shri A. M. Thomas: Sir, I do not think in any of the speeches made

before this House any distinction was made between Indian Christians and foreign Christians. I would respectfully ask your indulgence to go through the speeches and if there is any distinction made. If any charge against foreign missionaries' anti-national activities have been made out I would be failing in my duty if I do not attack such practices and I would not be here to defend them. (Interruption.)

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I do not think anybody said anything against the Indian Christians as such.

Shri U. M. Trivedi (Chittor): Shri Tandon made it clear that money is coming from America.

Shri A. M. Thomas: Sir, I would prefer to speak and not be heckled. This is what Shri T. T. Krishnamachari, as a private member, said: while discussing Article 25 of the Constitution:

"It is perfectly open to the Hindus and the Arya Samajists to carry on their Sudhi propaganda as it is open to the Christians, the Muslims, the Jains and the Buddhists and to every other religionist, so long as he does it subject to public order, morality and the other conditions that have to be observed in any civilised government. So, it is not a question of taking away anybody's rights. It is a question of conferring these rights on all the citizens and seeing that these rights are exercised in a manner which will not upset the economy of the country, which will not create disorder and which will not create undue conflict in the minds of the people. That, I feel, is the point that has to be stressed in regard to this particular article. Sir, I know as a person who has studied for about fourteen years in Christian institutions that no attempt had been made to convert me from my own faith and to practise Christianity. I am very well aware of the influences that Christianity has brought to bear upon our own ideals and our own

outlook, and I am not prepared to say here that they should be prevented from propagating their religion. I would ask the House to look at the facts so far as the history of this type of conversion is concerned. It depends upon the way in which certain religionists and certain communities treat their less fortunate brethren. The fact that many people in this country have embraced Christianity is due partly to the status that it gave to them. Why should we forget that particular fact? An untouchable who became a Christian became an equal in every matter along with the high-caste Hindu, and if we remove the need to obtain that particular advantage that he might probably get—it is undoubtedly a very important advantage, apart from the fact that he has faith in the religion itself—well the incentive for anybody to become a Christian will not probably exist."

7 P.M.

I have just referred to the background of the enactment of the article in the Constitution. I shall now come to the merits of the Bill. I have stated at the beginning that this Bill, if enacted, will be infructuous and would not serve the purpose which it seeks to serve. What is the use of registering a person who has got himself converted? What is the use of registering a person who was prepared to propagate his religion which he professes? This Bill wants only that the conversion may be registered. The person who wants to preach any religion may also get himself registered. What purpose does it serve? Does it serve any other purposes that my learned members who have spoken, had in view? I cannot understand what the purpose is. I have gone through all the clauses of the Bill.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Clause 4 speaks of a notice of conversion before conversion can take place. As a

[Mr. Deputy-Speaker]

notice of marriage is given before marriage takes place, likewise, there must be notice of conversion.

Shri A. M. Thomas: But the very act of conversion precedes the notice. Can there be anything more ludicrous and highhanded than this? Only when the conversion has not taken place, there will be the necessity for giving a notice. But the conversion has already taken place.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Clause 4 prescribes a notice for conversion.

Shri A. M. Thomas: Who will give notice of conversion? Only that person who has got himself converted will give notice.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member is on the question that the whole thing is inconsistent, apart from his disagreeing on various other grounds which have been already stated. We are on the last point whether there is anything ludicrous or inconsistent, apart from all other considerations. The hon. Member says it is useless. But clause 4 says that before conversion takes place—not merely the formal conversion but one brought about by a real change of heart or conviction—notice should be given. That is the object of the Bill. Before conversion, that gentleman who wants conversion or wants to be converted has to give a notice.

Shri A. M. Thomas: May I respectfully ask, how can one know what is the procedure for ascertaining whether there has been a real change of heart or change of mind on the part of the person concerned?

Mr Deputy-Speaker: How long is the hon. Member likely to take?

Shri A. M. Thomas: I may take ten or fifteen minutes more.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Then, before I adjourn the House, the Secretary will read messages from Rajya Sabha

MESSAGES FROM RAJYA SABHA

Secretary: Sir, I have to report the following two messages received from the Secretary of Rajya Sabha:

(i) "In accordance with the provisions of rule 125 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha, at its sitting held on the 29th September, 1955, agreed without any amendment to the Industrial Disputes (Banking Companies) Decision Bill, 1955, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 24th September, 1955."

(ii) "In accordance with the provisions of rule 125 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha, at its sitting held on the 30th September, 1955, agreed without any amendment to the Prize Competitions Bill, 1955, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 26th September, 1955."

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The House will now stand adjourned and meet again at 11 O'Clock tomorrow, and will go on till 7 P.M. tomorrow.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Saturday, the 1st October, 1955.