LOK SABHA
DEBATES

(Part I—Questions and Answers)

VOLUME II, 1956

16th March to 16th April 1956

TWELFTH SESSION, 1956
(Vol. II contains Nos. 21 to 40)

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI
## CONTENTS

[VOLUME II—FROM 16TH MARCH TO 16TH APRIL, 1956]

### No. 21—Friday, 16th March, 1956

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Oral Answers to Questions—</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Starred Questions Nos. 735 to 738, 740, 743, 744, 749, 754 to 756, 758, 760, 762 to 764, 739, 746, 751, 752</td>
<td>1045-1128</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Columns**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Written answers to Questions—</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Starred Questions Nos. 741, 742, 745, 747, 748, 750, 753, 757, 759, 761</td>
<td>1128-34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unstarred Questions Nos. 419 to 440</td>
<td>1134-44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daily Digest</td>
<td>1145-48</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### No. 22—Monday, 19th March, 1956

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Oral Answers to Questions—</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Starred Questions Nos. 765, 791, 797, 766, 767, 769 to 773, 776 to 779, 781, 784, 787, 789, 792 to 795, 798, 799</td>
<td>1149-84</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Written Answers to Questions—**

| Starred Questions Nos. 768, 774, 775, 780, 782, 783, 785, 786, 788, 796 | 1184-88 |
| Unstarred Questions Nos. 441 to 477 | 1188-1208 |
| Daily Digest | 1209-12 |

### No. 23—Tuesday, 20th March, 1956

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Oral Answers to Questions—</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Starred Questions Nos. 800 to 808, 811 to 814, 816, 820 to 826, 828, 819, 810, 817</td>
<td>1213-46</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Correction of answer to a question**

| Short Notice Questions Nos. 4 and 5 | 1246 |

**Written Answers to Questions—**

| Starred Questions Nos. 809, 815, 818, 819, 827 | 1249-51 |

**Unstarred Questions Nos. 478 to 486**

**Daily Digest**

| 1251-56 |
| 1257-58 |
III

No. 28—Thursday, 29th March 1956

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Oral Answers to Questions—</th>
<th>Columns</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Starred Questions Nos. 951, 953, 954, 956 to 959, 963, 965, 968, 974, 975, 978, 980, 982, 984 to 986, 989 to 991, 993, 996, 990</td>
<td>1455-87</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Written Answers to Questions—</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Starred Questions Nos. 950, 952, 955, 961, 962, 964, 967, 969 to 973, 976, 977, 979, 981, 983, 987, 988, 992, 994, 995, 998 to 1000</td>
<td>1487-99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unstarred Questions Nos. 550 to 556, 558 to 602</td>
<td>1499-1528</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Daily Digest</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1529-34</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

No. 29—Saturday, 31st March, 1956

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Oral Answers to Questions—</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Starred Questions Nos. 1001, 1003, 1006, 1007, 1011 to 1013, 1015, 1017 to 1022, 1024, 1026 to 1028, 1030 to 1032, 1034 to 1037, 1039, 1040</td>
<td>1535-71</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Written Answers to Questions—</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Starred Questions Nos. 1002, 1004, 1005, 1008 to 1010, 1014, 1016, 1023, 1025, 1029, 1033, 1038, 1041</td>
<td>1571-76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unstarred Questions Nos. 603 to 629</td>
<td>1576-92</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Daily Digest</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1593-96</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

No. 30—Monday, 2nd April, 1956

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Oral Answers to Questions—</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Starred Questions Nos. 1042 to 1046, 1049, 1053, 1057, 1059, 1061, 1063, 1065, 1069, 1078, 1080, 1070, 1071, 1075, 1079, 1081 to 1084</td>
<td>1597-1633</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Written Answers to Questions—</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Starred Questions Nos. 1047, 1048, 1050 to 1052, 1054 to 1056, 1058, 1060, 1062, 1064, 1067, 1072 to 1074, 1076</td>
<td>1633-49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unstarred Questions Nos. 630 to 637</td>
<td>1640-44</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Daily Digest</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1645-48</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Oral Answers to Questions—

Starred Questions Nos. 1085, 1087 to 1091, 1093 to 1095, 1100, 1101, 1103, 1105 to 1107, 1110, 1136, 1111 to 1116, 1119, 1120

Short Notice Questions Nos. 7 and 8

Written Answers to Questions—

Starred Questions Nos. 1086, 1092, 1096 to 1099, 1102, 1104, 1108, 1109, 1117, 1118, 1121 to 1135, 1137 to 1142, 1144 to 1149

Unstarred Questions Nos. 638 to 652, 654 to 694

Daily Digest

No. 31—Tuesday, 3rd April, 1956

Columns

1649-83

1683-90

No. 32—Wednesday, 4th April, 1956

Oral Answers to Questions—

Starred Questions Nos. 1150, 1154 to 1156, 1159, 1164, 1165, 1167 to 1169, 1171, 1173 to 1175, 1180 to 1182, 1186, 1188, 1152, 1160, 1179

Written Answers to Questions—

Starred Questions Nos. 1151, 1153, 1157, 1158, 1161 to 1163, 1166, 1170, 1172, 1176 to 1178, 1183 to 1185, 1187, 1189 to 1191

Unstarred Questions Nos. 695 to 725, 727 to 735

Daily Digest

No. 33—Thursday, 5th April, 1956

Timing of the sittings

Oral Answers to Questions—

Starred Questions Nos. 1192, 1194 to 1196, 1201, 1202, 1205 to 1207, 1209 to 1214, 1217 to 1220

Written Answers to Questions—

Starred Questions Nos. 1193, 1197 to 1200, 1203, 1204, 1208, 1215, 1216, 1221, 1222

Unstarred Questions Nos. 736 to 743

Daily Digest

1811-14

1815

1816-48

1849-54

1854-58

1859-60
No. 34—Friday, 6th April, 1956

Timing of meetings of Parliamentary Committees during Sessions

Oral Answers to Questions—

Starred Questions Nos. 1223, 1225, 1226, 1229, 1231, 1232, 1234, 1237, 1238, 1241, 1243, 1245 to 1250, 1252, 1253, 1255, 1257 to 1263

Short Notice Question No. 9

Written Answers to Questions—

Starred Questions Nos. 1224, 1227, 1228, 1230, 1233, 1235, 1236, 1239, 1240, 1242, 1244, 1251, 1254, 1256, 1264, 1265

Unstarred Questions Nos. 744 to 797

Daily Digest

No. 35—Monday, 9th April, 1956

Oral Answers to Questions—

Starred Questions Nos. 1267 to 1274, 1277, 1278, 1284, 1286, 1288, 1290 to 1292, 1294 to 1296, 1299, 1275, 1282, 1287, 1297

Written Answers to Questions—

Starred Questions Nos. 1266, 1276, 1279, to 1281, 1283, 1285, 1289, 1293, 1298

Unstarred Questions Nos. 798 to 840

Daily Digest

No. 36—Tuesday, 10th April, 1956

Oral Answers to Questions—

Starred Questions Nos. 1303 to 1306, 1308, 1311, 1312, 1314 to 1317, 1319 to 1321, 1323 to 1325, 1327 to 1329, 1331, 1333 to 1335, 1300

Written Answers to Questions—

Starred Questions Nos. 1301, 1302, 1307, 1309, 1310, 1313, 1318, 1322, 1326, 1330, 1333, 1336, 1337

Unstarred Questions Nos. 841, 842 844 to 864

Daily Digest

No. 37—Wednesday, 11th April, 1956

Member Sworn

Oral Answers to Questions—

Starred Questions Nos. 1339 to 1342, 1350, 1351, 1353 to 1355, 1357, 1359, 1360, 1363, 1365, 1366, 1368, 1370 to 1372, 1377, 1379, 1381, 1382

Written Answers to Questions—

Starred Questions Nos. 1338, 1343 to 1349, 1352, 1356, 1358, 1361, 1362, 1364, 1367, 1369, 1373 to 1376, 1378, 1380, 1383 to 1385

Unstarred Questions Nos. 865 to 930-A

Daily Digest

5—83 L. S.
vi

No. 38—Thursday, 12th April, 1956

Oral Answers to Questions—

Starred Questions Nos. 1386 to 1388, 1390, 1392, 1398, 1401, 1404, 1406, 1408, 1410 to 1412, 1416 to 1418, 1397, 1400, 1409, 1413, 1414

Short Notice Questions Nos. 10, 11

Written Answers to Questions—

Starred Questions Nos. 1389, 1391, 1393, 1394, 1396, 1399, 1402, 1403, 1405, 1407

Unstarred Questions Nos. 931, 933 to 952

Daily Digest

No. 39—Saturday, 14th April, 1956

Oral Answers to Questions—

Starred Questions Nos. 1419, 1420, 1422, 1423, 1425 to 1427, 1430 to 1439, 1441 to 1446

Written Answers to Questions—

Starred Questions Nos. 1421, 1424, 1428, 1429, 1440, 1447 to 1452

Unstarred Questions Nos. 953 to 974

Daily Digest

No. 40—Monday, 16th April, 1956

Oral Answers to Questions—

Starred Questions Nos. 1454 to 1459, 1464, 1466 to 1468, 1470, 1501, 1473 to 1475, 1478, 1479, 1481, 1482, 1484 to 1486, 1488 to 1490

Written Answers to Questions—

Starred Questions Nos. 1460 to 1463, 1465, 1471, 1472, 1476, 1477, 1480, 1483, 1487, 1491 to 1500, 1502, 1503

Unstarred Questions Nos. 975 to 1069

Daily Digest

GIPN—S4—83 Lok Sabha—13-3-57—849
The Lok Sabha met at Half Past Ten of the Clock

[Mr. Speaker in the Chair]

TIMING OF MEETINGS OF PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES

Mr. Speaker: I understand that, even at the outset the want of quorum in the House is due to the sittings of some Select Committees or some other Parliamentary Committees being held. I would advise hon. Members not to hold Select Committee meetings from 10 A.M. to 1 P.M. I would not allow any Select Committee or any Committee to hold its meeting when the House is sitting, between 10 A.M. and 1 P.M. Again and again, all the papers are taking it up saying that for want of quorum the supreme Parliament of India is not able to meet. I would urge on all hon. Members to note that the whole House, and also hon. Members individually, are getting into ridicule in the eyes of the world at large. No Committee shall hold its sitting from 10 A.M. to 1 P.M. so long as the Parliament is in session and is sitting.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Wagon Shortage

*1223. Shri Jhulan Sinha: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the great difficulties experienced by the producers of Gur and Khandasari during 1955 due to the paucity of railway wagons supplied for transport of the commodities; and

(b) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken this year in advance to avoid hardship to those producers?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) Yes. Representations were received about difficulties in the movement of Gur and Khandasari during 1955 from certain stations on the North Eastern, Northern and Southern Railways.

(b) Special efforts have been made by the Railway Administrations to increase the wagon supply for movement of this traffic despite difficulty in movements over restricted routes via various transhipment points, as is evident from the fact that this traffic has recorded considerable increase in loading during the period from November 1955 to February 1956 over the corresponding period of the previous year.

Shri Jhulan Sinha: May I know if the attention of the Government has been drawn to the special transport difficulties, especially in North Bihar, in this respect?

Shri Alagesan: In all these places, as I said, there has been a greater amount of loading this year. Also, the quotas have been increased and in some cases special trains have also been run.

Shri Alagesan: His Hindi was a bit too fast for me to follow. He was also indistinct.

Mr. Speaker: Shri Garg.

Shri R. P. Garg: In view of the fact that the paucity of wagons leads to illicit and corrupt practices on the
part of the railwaymen, may I know the steps proposed to be taken by the Government in order to put those practices to an end?

Shri Alagesan: Along with the need to move sugar, there is also the movement of commodities like sugar-cane, tea, jute, etc. So, there is a greater demand between November and June for wagon loadings. But, as the House knows, various steps are being taken to increase the manufacture of wagons in this country itself.

Mr. Speaker: Shri Dabhi. Some hon. Member is laughing. Am I to take it that the hon. Member is putting the question?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): All the four Members who have tabled this question are absent.

Mr. Speaker: But how am I to know if there is talk? I might suspend the House and give half an hour for hon. Members to carry on conversation inside the House!

It is very wrong that not even one out of the four Members who have tabled this question is present.

Shri Alagesan: I think the traffic terms from the letters A to Z have been more or less finalised, but the publication, I think, has been made from A to H. I hope the rest will be published soon. Regarding the other departments also, the finalisation of the terms is going on. It is a work which has to be done rather carefully.

Shri Alagesan: I do not have the figures before me to show how many railway employees at present know Hindi or are proficient in Hindi and how many are not acquainted with Hindi. But, as I said in the statement, we are taking certain steps to acquaint the present employees with a knowledge of Hindi. It is proposed to introduce this subject in the training schools also so that they may pass a simple test before they go out of the training schools, especially in the non-Hindi speaking areas. I am not able to give the percentage of Hindi-knowing employees as compared to the total number.
Shri Alagesan: It has to be appreciated that the railways cannot be single out for the introduction of Hindi. As far as the transaction of business goes, a switch-over to Hindi will take place along with the other departments and other Ministries as well. What we are trying to do is to run classes for the benefit of those employees who are not acquainted with Hindi and also to teach Hindi in the training schools so that the non-Hindi speaking employees, when they go out of the training schools, will be able to have a fair knowledge of Hindi. That is the object.

Shri Alagesan: I think it is said in the statement that we are beginning with the composite forms which are printed both in English and Hindi. They have been introduced and I think the number of such forms can be surely increased and the printing of such composite forms can be extended to cover all the remaining forms and other things mentioned by the hon. Member.

Shri Alagesan: The overall responsibility for the accuracy and aptness of these terms is shouldered by the Education Ministry. It is they who vet these things and finalise them.

Shri B. S. Murthy: Is there any time-limit prescribed for the introduction and spread of Hindi among all the categories of railway employees?

Shri Alagesan: No rigid time-limit has been fixed. We are taking certain steps and we hope that within a foreseeable time we should be able to achieve results.

Shri Bibhuti Mishra: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that discussions were held in Delhi on 8th December 1955 between the representatives of the Railway Board and representatives of established manufacturers of railway wagons;

(b) if so, whether steel emerged as the crucial factor in supply of wagons and other requirements of the railways; and

(c) how Government propose to overcome the deficiency in the supply of steel?
The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) By supplementing indigenous supply by importation of steel.

Shri Alagesan: I think the hon. Member wants to know the estimate of steel requirements for the Second Five Year Plan?

Shri Bibhuti Mishra: Annual steel requirements for the Railways.

Shri Alagesan: That estimate has been made. As far as the current year goes, it has been estimated that we would require one million tons of steel.

Shri Alagesan: I think the hon. Member’s question relates to substitution of steel by wood. I do not know about other things. As far as sleepers go, we are now experimenting with concrete sleepers which will take the place of steel or cast iron sleepers.

"AGMARK" GHEE

*1229. Shri B. S. Murthy: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the total ghee produced and the quantity “Agmarked” in India during 1953-54 and 1954-55;

(b) the amount spent annually on propaganda for the use of “Agmark” ghee and the results thereof;

(c) the Governmental aid and assistance given for improving the conditions of the industry as a whole and the packers of “Agmark” ghee; and

(d) whether the “Agmark” ghee grading scheme is a self-supporting and if not, the steps taken or to be taken to stabilise the same?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) The total production of ghee according to the live-stock census figures of 1951 is about one crore maunds per year. The quantity Agmarked during 1953-54 was 96,296 maunds and that in 1954-55, 1,23,942.

(b) About Rs. 4,600 per year for all propaganda on ‘Agmarking’ including ghee. This has resulted in increased demand of ‘Agmark’ ghee.

(c) None.

(d) No. This is a developmental activity which will take sometime to become self-financing.

Shri B. S. Murthy: May I know whether any money has been earmarked in the Second Five Year Plan for the development of ghee in special and Agmark ghee in general?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: We want to expand our grading facilities as much as possible during the Second Five Year Plan. I could not state specifically what is proposed to be spent on this. But, we are going to expand.

Shri B. S. Murthy: May I know whether there is any demand for Indian ghee outside India and if so, what steps are being taken to encourage or discourage it?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: According to our understanding, a lot of our people do not get sufficient ghee. That is why they go in for vanaspati instead of ghee.

Shri Jangde: Has it come to the notice of the Minister that Agmark ghee is not pure ghee as it is adulterated with vanaspati or dalda?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: I am afraid it is a fact in some cases.
SHIPPING OFFICERS

*1231. Shri P. C. Bose: Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:
(a) the number of Indian Officers in the higher grades of service employed at present in the Indian Merchant Ships;
(b) the number of foreign officers working there in the same grades of services; and
(c) the cause of the paucity, if any, of the Indian Officers?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) 243 Indians are employed at present as Masters, Chief Officers or Chief Engineers on Indian Merchant Ships.
(b) 125.

(c) The paucity of Indian Officers is mainly due to the fact that the increased training facilities provided by Government after the country's independence have not yet started yielding their full results. It takes a man about seven years to acquire the necessary technical qualifications for holding a senior job. He has also to serve as a junior officer for a number of years before he can expect to be appointed to a senior post.

Shri P. C. Bose: Is it a fact that shipping companies have a dislike for Indian Officers and favour foreigners?

Shri Alagesan: On the other hand, I should imagine that they have a positive liking for them. The only fact is that we do not have a sufficient number of trained officers and with enough experience. As I said, we hope we will have adequate supply of these officers in about three years time.

Shri P. C. Bose: May I know if the Government is making any arrangement to impart any improved training, higher training, to our Indian trainees?

Shri Alagesan: Yes, Sir. We have established various institutions where training is imparted. We have increased the in-take of these men for
training. It is because of that that we hope to have adequate supply of these officers in due course.

Shri B. S. Murthy: May I know whether any of the Indian trainees have been sent to foreign countries for specialised training and what are the countries to which they have been sent?

Shri Alagesan: Some of our men take their examinations in the U.K.

RUPNARAIN BRIDGE

*1232. Shri S. C. Samanta: Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) the stage which the proposed bridge at Kolaghat on the Rupnarain River on the Calcutta—Bombay National Highway has reached;

(b) the reasons for its not being commenced during the First Five Year Plan;

(c) whether it is a fact that a number of complaints from the public as to its alignment have been received;

(d) the action taken thereon; and

(e) whether the question of constructing the new bridge together with the existing rail-bridge was considered?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) The estimate for the construction of the bridge was sanctioned in February 1956 and the work will be commenced after the tenders are finalised.

(b) Elaborate investigations for locating a suitable site because of the river meander and expansive width had to be made. Also negotiations had to be conducted with Railways as the only suitable site necessitated approaches going through their land.

(c) and (d). No. Only one representation suggesting a change in the alignment of approaches to the bridge was received, but there was also a counter representation against any change. On investigation it was found that the change suggested in the first representation would introduce bad curves and would involve acquisition of homestead areas. It was therefore not accepted.

(e) Yes, but it was not found to be feasible.

Shri N. B. Choudhury: May I know whether the Government have considered the complaints of the local people that a large area, as much as about 100 acres, have been acquired by the Government for the construction of this road while a very small area might have served the purpose had Government khas land been used?

Shri Alagesan: Naturally, if you build a road, land has to be acquired, and I do not think the authorities would have acquired more land than was absolutely necessary.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether the construction of the bridge at the Ferryghat site was also considered, and if so, what was the difficulty in selecting the site?

Shri Alagesan: Before the actual site is chosen, naturally all available and suitable sites are inspected, and this is done not once but several times. Our consulting engineer also goes and helps to choose the site. After considering the pros and cons of various sites this has been arrived at as the most suitable site for the construction of the bridge.

Shri S. C. Samanta: Is it not a fact that the present alignment for the bridge will require thousands of acres of agricultural land to be acquired? If so, may I know whether the Government have thought over the matter that the existing road may be utilised for it?

Shri Alagesan: Evidently the hon. Member is suffering from a sense of exaggeration. It will not be necessary to acquire thousands of acres of land. It is just not needed.

Shri N. B. Choudhury: May I know whether the suggestion referred to by the hon. Minister has come
from a very small influential section of the people whose houses and lands were likely to be acquired if Government did not acquire the hundred acres of land belonging to the other people?

Shri Alagesan: I do not know about the relative influence of the sections that made the recommendations, but it was thought that it was better to acquire lands than acquire homesteads which may cause greater difficulty. Besides, there was the other advantage that the other alignment would have introduced a curve which is not good for a highway of this type.

Shri N. B. Chowdhury: May I know whether Government have received any representation from an expert engineer that the cost of this bridge can be reduced to a great extent by integrating the scheme with a sort of river contraction scheme by which the length of the bridge can be reduced to a great extent and this length would not be necessary?

Shri Alagesan: All these technical details are thoroughly and exhaustively gone into before the actual designs and estimates are worked out.

**DETENTION OF TRAINS ON NORTHERN RAILWAY**

*1234. Shri Ram Krishan: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that trains on Northern Railway are often detained at stations between Delhi and Rewari owing to heavy traffic and crossing of different trains;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to have a double track between the station of Delhi and Rewari; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) It is proposed to undertake this work in two phases, the first phase being from Delhi to Garhi Harsaru and the second from Garhi Harsaru to Rewari. The first phase is expected to commence in 1956-57.

Sardar Iqbal Singh: May I know whether there is any other proposal for the doubling of the railway track on the Northern Railway?

Shri Alagesan: There may be. I should like to have notice.

**CORRIDOR RAILWAY COACHES**

*1237. Sardar Iqbal Singh: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased state:

(a) whether Government have received any complaints regarding the Railway coaches with Corridors regarding the insufficient place for luggage; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to remove it?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

Sardar Iqbal Singh: May I know whether it is a fact that very little space is available on these corridor trains for the luggage?

Shri Alagesan: It has been suggested as a result of various experiments that the height should be—I mean of the lower berth—about 16". The other day also we inspected a mock up of these third class coaches, and it was suggested that a height of 17" might be considered for this purpose, so that a little more luggage, not exactly more in quantity, but if the trunks etc., are a little higher, they could be shoved in, but we would like to discourage passengers taking too much of luggage and luggage of too big a size.

Sardar Iqbal Singh: May I know whether it is a fact that even in the luggage van there is no space available for these passengers who want to take their luggage? If that is so, what is the Government going to do in this matter?
Shri Alagesan: I should not think there is not sufficient space in the luggage van. There should be.

Sardar Iqbal Singh: On these corridor trains.

SHYAMBAZAR BELIAHATA TRAIN SERVICE

*1238. Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to the answer given to Starred Question No. 1085 on the 21st December, 1955 and state:

(a) whether Government have received a reply to the letter addressed to the West Bengal Government regarding the operation of a shuttle train between the Shyambazar-Beliaghata section of the ex-Baraset—Basirhat Light Railway;

(b) if so, what are its contents;

(c) whether it is a fact that Government are hesitant to use the amended article 31 of the Constitution to expedite the opening of this shuttle;

(d) if not, whether it is proposed to issue an ordinance for this purpose as was done when the Baraset-Basirhat Light Railway was taken over and run by the West Bengal Government; and

(e) when this shuttle train will be opened?

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

(b) The West Bengal Government are also of the view that the appropriate course would be to convert the existing railway embankment from Bishnupur to Beliaghata into a metalled road.

(c) to (e). Do not arise. In view of what is stated in the answer to Part (b) above.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: May I know if the idea of having the metal road has been finalised and if so, by what time the construction of the road will be undertaken?

Shri Alagesan: Yes, Sir. I think the West Bengal Government has almost decided to have the road on that alignment.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: May I know if it is a fact that the only point which has yet to be decided and which is holding up the work is the fact that the Central Government is hesitating to give the West Bengal Government the amount of money that will be required?

Shri Alagesan: This road is entirely the State responsibility. Even so, we are thinking of giving aid to a certain extent to meet the wishes of the West Bengal Government in the matter. We may give them 50 per cent aid.

TOURISM

*1241. Shri Amjad Ali: Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state the steps taken to popularise and encourage tourist traffic to Assam?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) Places of tourist interest in Assam are mentioned in the ‘Handbook of India’, ‘Tourist Information Booklet’, ‘Panoramic Map of India’, ‘India Folder’ and ‘With Gun and Rod in India’. These are all publications. Places in Assam are also mentioned in the pamphlet ‘Hill Stations of East India and Folder on Game Sanctuaries’, which are under production. A guide and a folder with insert, exclusively on Assam, have already been brought out and maps of Shillong and of Assam State are under production. A film on Kaziranga Game Sanctuary in Assam is also being produced. Certain proposals calculated to promote tourist traffic to Assam are also being considered for inclusion in the Second Five Year Plan.

Shri Amjad Ali: May I know what is the contribution of the Ministry of Transport to these steps taken?

Shri Alagesan: As far as the publication of literature goes, which was mentioned exhaustively in the answer, it is purely done by the Central Government. The film is also produced
from Central funds. Regarding the proposals to be included in the Five Year Plan, they are divided into various categories of works. Some may be entirely borne by the Centre, there may be others where the expenditure may have to be shared between the State Government and the Centre, and there are other works the responsibility for which will have to be entirely borne by the State.

Shri Amjad Ali: May I know if any reduction in the fares of railways and roadways is contemplated in order to attract visitors to Assam?

Shri A. Lagesan: The usual hill station concession fare is there. To a certain extent that will help in attracting tourists to Assam.

Shri Amjad Ali: From the road wing.

Shri L. N. Mishra: Is it a fact that there have been some comments in the British Press that adequate facilities were not made available to the foreign tourists in India and therefore India could not take full advantage of foreign tourism in 1955? If so, may I know whether any special measures are being taken to provide additional facilities to the tourists?

Shri A. Lagesan: This question is constantly before the Government. We would like to increase accommodation facilities, hotel accommodation etc., as much as possible, but availability of funds comes in the way, and we cannot proceed as fast as we would like to.

Shrimati Ila Palchoudhury: May I know whether apart from Shillong to which a certain amount of transport facilities exist, transport facilities have been arranged for any other places in Assam, that is, beauty spots that are likely to attract tourists?

Shri A. Lagesan: One of the major attractions in Assam is the Kaziranga Game Sanctuary, which is the only abode of the rhinoceros in the country. Good transport facilities exist to go there, and there is also a good rest-house. Recently, the accommodation in the rest-house has been expanded also.

**VANASPATI**

\*1243. Dr. Rama Rao: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the total installed capacity of Messrs. Hindustan Vanaspati Manufacturing Company Ltd. for the manufacture of vanaspati and how does it compare with the total installed capacity in India; and

(b) the actual production of vanaspati by the above concern in 1953-54, 1954-55 and its percentage to the total production in India?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) The total installed capacity for the manufacture of Vanaspati of the four factories owned by Messrs. Hindustan Vanaspati Manufacturing Co. Ltd., is 76,000 tons per annum. It forms 18.4% of the total installed capacity in India.

(b) The actual production of vanaspati by the said concerns in 1953-54 and 1954-55 was 53,226 tons and 59,896 tons respectively. In both the years, it formed 26.5% of the total production in the country.

Dr. Rama Rao: May I know who the owners of the Hindustan Vanaspati Manufacturing Co. Ltd. are, and whether they are Indians or foreigners?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: I am not sure, but I believe they are Messrs. Lever Bros.

Dr. Rama Rao: May I know whether in view of the fact that this monopolistic company namely Messrs. Lever Bros., have such a huge share of production of vanaspati in India, any complaints have been received from the smaller fies?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): They have set up a certain number of companies, and of course, they are manufacturing
quite a big portion of the vanaspati manufactured in India. But I do not know what the hon. Member wants us to do.

Mr. Speaker: How does that arise out of this question? Vanaspati is compared to the atom and hydrogen bombs.

Shri Kamath: Is the Minister in a position to tell the House what proportion of the vanaspati manufactured in India is being diverted for adulteration of ghee?

Shri A. P. Jain: I think those who are dealing in adulteration know it. Government have no means of knowing it.

Shri Kamath: You have got the staff for it.

Shri L. N. Mishra: May I know what the target of production for vanaspati is during the Second Five Year Plan, and whether we are going to restrict its production or expand it?

Shri A. P. Jain: We are not going to increase its capacity.

Shrimati Kamlendu Mati Shah: May I know whether it is a fact that a dye for colouring vanaspati has been found, but it has not received the consideration of the manufacturers of vanaspati?

Shri A. P. Jain: That is not at all a fact.

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

Shri M. L. Dwivedi rose.

Mr. Speaker: Vanaspati is almost in every place.

Shri M. L. Dwivedi: It is a great problem.

Shri L. N. Mishra: We are losing our health.

Shri M. L. Dwivedi: May I know......

Mr. Speaker: Does the hon. Member want to put any supplementary question on the vanaspati matter?

Shri M. L. Dwivedi: Yes.

Mr. Speaker: I am sorry. I have called the next question.

Thefts in Trains

*1245. Shri Kamath: Will the the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to a letter in “The Statesman”, Delhi Edition, dated the 25th February, 1956, wherein allegations of a serious nature have been made against certain railway officials; and

(b) if so, whether Government have taken or propose to take any action in the matter?

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

(b) The whole matter is under detailed investigation.

Shri Kamath: Are these thefts in trains and similar occurrences on the increase or decrease during the last six months?

Shri Alagesan: I do not have the figures before me. I should imagine they are on the decrease.

Transfer of N.E. Railway Offices

*1246. Shri Rishang Keishing: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether the offices of North-Eastern Railway at Calcutta have been transferred to Gorakhpur according to the Press announcement in June, 1955;

(b) if not, whether there is any change in the policy; and
(c) if not, the reasons for the delay?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) to (c). Subsequent to the Press announcement of June 1955, it was decided to expand the accounts work of the North-Eastern Railway at Calcutta and to transfer the commercial work from Calcutta to Gorakhpur, as this would obviate large scale transfers of staff and enable them to be absorbed locally on N.E. Railway work. This adjustment is at present in progress.

Shri Rishang Keishing: Is it not a fact that in almost all the offices of the North-Eastern Railway at Calcutta, namely the statistical claims and accounts offices, the work has been running into arrears, and it is still on the increase, and if so, may I know whether Government propose to pay some money in the shape of honorarium to the Calcutta staff for clearing the arrears?

Shri Alagesan: It is true that there are large arrears of work that have to be cleared. But with the expansion that is now proposed, it will be possible to clear the arrears. Further, the staff had a little doubt that they may have to go to Gorakhpur. They are now completely satisfied regarding that, for they will not have to go to Gorakhpur, and they will remain in Calcutta. Under this assurance, they will also give us greater cooperation. That will also help in the clearance of the arrears.

Shri Rishang Keishing: Is it a fact that recently the post of statistical officer was transferred from Gorakhpur to Calcutta, and if so, may I know whether that has been done at the instance of the Railway Board, and how far it is consistent with the policy announced by the Minister in June last?

Shri Alagesan: There is nothing against the policy that has been announced. As I said, it has been arranged in such a way that the entire accounts work will be done in Calcutta and as such we shall be able to absorb the staff working in other offices in the accounts work; and the commercial work will be done entirely at Gorakhpur. There is no dislocation, and there is nothing in this which is against the policy that was announced by the Minister.

Shri N. B. Chowdhury: May I know whether Government have since modified in any way their assurance to the employees at Calcutta that none of them would be transferred to Gorakhpur against their desire?

Shri Alagesan: No, that has not at all been modified; on the other hand, it has been perhaps more than conceded.

Production of Oil

*1247. Shri Siddananjappa: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Co-operative Cottage Industries of Tumkur have submitted a memorandum to the Union Government requesting that the recommendation of the Rice Milling Committee be given effect to and production of oil in mills be restricted; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Shri Siddananjappa: May I know whether Government have considered the recommendations of the Rice Milling Committee, and accepted any of them?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: The recommendations are being considered; and they have been sent to the concerned States and Ministries also for their views thereon.

Air Companies

*1248. Th. Lakshman Singh Charak: Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the Air-Companies who refused to accept the compensation offered under Section 25, but

...
have referred their cases to the Airlines Compensation Tribunal under Section 26 of the Air Corporation Act, 1953; and

(b) the decisions given by the Tribunal in each case?

The Minister in the Ministry of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) and (b). I lay a statement on the Table of the Lok Sabha giving the required information. [See Appendix VII, annexe No. 2.]

Th. Lakshman Singh Charak: May I know whether the case of the Airways (India) Limited has also been decided?

Shri Raj Bahadur: Yes.

DIVISIONAL HEADQUARTERS AT KHURDA ROAD

*1249. Shri Sanganna: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether the proposals to open Divisional Headquarters at Khurda Road in the South Eastern Railway Zone have materialised?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): No proposals have yet been formed in regard to the Divisionalisation Scheme of the South-Eastern Railway.

Shri Sanganna: May I know whether any representation has been received by the Orissa Government as well as this Government in this connection, and if so, what is the reaction of Government?

Shri Alagesan: We know the wishes of the people in Orissa. They want at least one divisional headquarters to be situated within their State limits. This wish of theirs will be duly taken into consideration when the final decision is taken.

Shri Karam: I have also submitted a claim that the Divisional Office at Khurda Road has not been formally notified.

Shri Alagesan: Evidently, the hon. Member did not listen to my answer. We have accepted the divisional pattern for the South-Eastern Railway also. In fact, we want to introduce it on all the railways. It is being slowly proceeded with. As far as the South-Eastern Railway goes, the proposals have not yet been formulated. But it will also be taken up duly.

प्रकाशनालिंगताको अनुसूचितनयन-सरकारी सहायता

*१२५०. श्री के० शी० सोविय़ा: क्या संख्यात्मक मंच नं २२ निम्नांक १६५४ के ताराकित प्रति संख्या १२३४ के उपर के संबंध में यह बताते की कुना करेंगे कि:

(क) अनुसूचित समक्षी संस्थाओं और उद्गम-केंद्रों की स्थापना में सूचित करने के लिये भारत सरकार ने कप्रालिंगताको की मांग सातार और अन्तिम अर्थवर्ती भूमिका के हैं;

(ख) यह सहायता कोलम्बो योजना को अभीत दी गई है या अन्य रूप में; और

(ग) कर्मचारी कप्रालिंगताको की दिन शास्त्रों पर भेजे गये हैं?

संबंध संख्यात्मक मंच (श्री राज बहादुर):

(क) तथा (ग). में समाप्त पर एक विवरण-पत्र रख रहा है जिसमें आवश्यक सूचना दी गई है। [सीधियों परिचालन ७, अनुसूचना ३० ३]

(ख) यह सहायता कोलम्बो योजना के अन्तर्गत नहीं दी गई है।

श्री के० शी० सोविय़ा: जो यह अधिकारी बह भेजे गये हैं, ये बाहर कितने दिन रहेंगे?

श्री राज बहादुर: जितने दिन आवश्यक होगा बह रहेंगे। जब तक उनके अपने आदमी ट्रेन नहीं हो जाते तब तक ने बहार रहेंगे।

श्री के० शी० सोविय़ा: यह जो समान उपयोग पत्र दिया गया है, इसकी काम पर तकदीरों कितने होगा?

श्री राज बहादुर: यह जो यंग भेजे गये हैं उनकी काम लगभग ६३,००० रुपया है।
Sardar Iqbal Singh: May I know whether the Government of Nepal has also asked for a loan of officials of the India Meteorological Department for their service?

Shri Raj Bahadur: Both for aeronautical communication and meteorological facilities, they wanted certain equipment as also staff necessary for the running of these establishments.

AIR SERVICE

*1252. Shri Krishnacharya Joshi: Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to extend the night air service to other Indian cities; and

(b) if so, when?

The Minister in the Ministry of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) There is no proposal at present.

(b) Does not arise.

Shri Krishnacharya Joshi: In view of the fact that some important cities like Bangalore and Hyderabad are not at present covered, will the Government conduct the service to these places?

Shri Raj Bahadur: This question has come up before us from time to time. Keeping in view the strength of our present fleet and our overall requirements, it does not appear to be possible for us to extend night services to Hyderabad and Bangalore for the time being.

Shri Krishnacharya Joshi: May I know how many services are there now?

Shri Raj Bahadur: Delhi, Bombay, Calcutta and Madras are connected via Nagpur by the night airmail services.

Shri R. P. Garg: Have Government any plan to link all the capitals of State Governments in the near future?

Shri Raj Bahadur: That has been long ago declared. It is our plan to link the capitals of the State Governments if the aerodromes and other necessary facilities are available there.

Sardar Iqbal Singh: Is there any proposal for a service between Delhi and Chandigarh or is there any proposal for a stoppage at Chandigarh of the service between Delhi and Srinagar?

Shri Raj Bahadur: A proposal to connect Delhi and Chandigarh by air services is under consideration.

Shri Mohiuddin: As new planes have arrived and have been put on the night airmail service, is it not a fact that Dakotas have been released and they can be used on new lines?

Shri Raj Bahadur: It is not only a question of new planes having arrived. We wanted to replace the Dakotas for the night service by Skymasters and we have now introduced the Skymasters for the night airmail service. We want that the Skymasters should operate so far as night airmail services are concerned. Dakotas are already in short supply. As a matter of fact, we do not have enough number of Dakotas to meet all our requirements of the services that we have already planned.

बिल्सी में मजूरों की शपथियों का विराम जाना

*१२५३. श्री पौरोष एनुष बाबापास : क्या त्यास्थनि मन्त्री यह बाताने की क्षण करीं कि :

(क) क्या सरकार को पता है कि म्युनिसिपल कमेटी और नोटिफाइड एरिया कमेटी दिल्ली की विभिन्न विभागों में मजूरों की शपथियों को गिरा रही है; और

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो उनके आदेश के लिए-हूसरा क्या तय किया गया है?

स्वास्थ्य उपमंडल (भरती पंचशृंखला) :

(क) सरकार को पता है कि नई बिल्सी म्युनिसिपल कमेटी ने कुछ बकायाओं को जा १५ प्रति, १५५२ के बाद बिना इजाजत मिले बनाए गये है, गिरा दिया है। वंशाव म्युनिसिपल एक्ट की प्रक्रिया (procedure) को पालन करने के बाद ही ऐसा किया गया था। बिल्सी की किसी और म्युनिसिपलिटी ने ऐसा नहीं किया है।
Shri B. S. Murthy: Since how long have these people been living there, and is it not the responsibility of the Committee to provide them alternative accommodation? What is the authority from which they can seek this help?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: I think the large majority of these persons are labourers. I myself feel that the contractors who employ them, whether they be Government or a private party or Municipality, are really responsible for providing them with accommodation. I am pursuing this matter.

Shri B. S. Murthy: Since how long have these people been living there, and is it not the responsibility of the Committee to provide them alternative accommodation? What is the authority from which they can seek this help?

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World Conference on Traffic Problems

*1257. Sardar Iqbal Singh: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any invitation from the British Road Federation to attend a World Conference on Problem of Traffic Congestion to be held in London this year; and

(b) if so, whether Government have accepted the same?

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

(b) A decision in the matter has not so far been taken.

Sardar Iqbal Singh: May I know whether this problem of traffic congestion has been considered in India on a country-wide scale?

Shri Alagesan: This is being tackled by the various authorities. Perhaps the hon. Member can notice even in Delhi what has been done, to mitigate traffic congestion by provision of roundabouts, signals, etc.

Sardar Iqbal Singh: May I know if this problem of removing the traffic congestion on roads is beyond the financial ability of the State or the municipal committees concerned and if so whether Government propose to give any assistance in this matter?

Shri Alagesan: There is no reason to suppose that the measures to be taken to avoid congestion are beyond the financial capacities of the various authorities.

'Pay Strike' of Railway Guards

*1258. Shri H. G. Vaishnav: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether inquiries have been made about the grievances of the Railway guards of the Delhi area of the Northern Railway who are reported to be on 'Pay Strike' and have not drawn their salaries for February, 1956 as a protest against the regulation under which the T.A. is paid to them; and

(b) if so, the result of the inquiry?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) No enquiries as such were made, as the General Manager, Northern Railway, was already dealing with a reference made to him about the grievances. This has since been dealt with and the status quo restored.

(b) Does not arise.

Shri H. G. Vaishnav: May I know whether there is any difference between the regulations in the Northern Railway and those of other Railways?

Shri Alagesan: This was with reference to the guards working in particular sections where they will not be able to do more mileage on a day and as such the travelling allowances that they were drawing were affected. This was a peculiar feature.
Shri H. G. Vaishnav: May I know whether the guards have received their salaries or they have not?

Shri Alagesan: They have received.

**UNLICENSED HAWKERS AND COOLIES ON RAILWAYS**

*1259. Shri Ram Krishan: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the number of unlicensed hawker and coolies is increasing day by day on various Railways; and

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

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) It is difficult to say whether their number is increasing or otherwise.

(b) A statement showing the steps taken by the Railways is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix VII, annexure No. 4.]

Shri Alagesan: That is a sweeping allegation which I cannot accept as true.

Shri Ram Krishan: This was.

Mr. Speaker: The matter was discussed during the Railway Budget and it was said that they were going to have a double line.

Shri B. S. Murthy: No, no. This was not discussed.

Shri Alagesan: This was.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member was not evidently here.

Shri Ramachandra Reddi: May I know the portions that are likely to be doubled—of that particular line—and also the cost thereof?

Shri Alagesan: It is proposed to double the entire line from Tenali to Gudur; the length is, I think, less than 200 miles. Now, the portions that will be immediately taken up for doubling are as follows:—

- Ulavapadu to Surareddipalem . 17 miles.
- Kadavakuduru to Bapatla . 19½ miles.

**SANATORIUM TREATMENT FOR GOVERNMENT SERVANTS**

*1261. Dr. Rama Rao: Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) the names of sanatoria recognised by the Central Government under the Contributory Health Service Scheme and for treatment of Government servants and their families suffering from T.B.; and

(b) the mileage proposed to be doubled in 1956-57?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) A length of 5 miles between Madras Central and Tiruvottiyur was doubled about 35 years ago.

(b) Nil.

(c) 36½ miles.
The Deputy Minister of Health (Shrimati Chandrasekhar): (a) A statement giving the information required is placed on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix VII, annexure No. 5.]

(b) Government servants suffering from T. B. and requiring institutional treatment are provided with beds free of charge, if any are available at the time admission is sought. Only those Government servants whose pay is less than Rs. 100 p.m. are supplied diet free of cost. All others have to pay for their diet.

Dr. Rama Rao: May I know the facilities given by Government to Government servants? Do they reimburse the cost of some of these costly drugs for all cadres of Government servants or only for particular cadres?

Shrimati Chandrasekhar: There is reimbursement made to all cadres of Government servants.

SUGAR FACTORIES IN ORISSA

*1262. Shri Sanganna: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 352 on the 1st December, 1955 in respect of establishment of sugar factories in Orissa and state:

(a) whether any decision has since been taken; and

(b) if so, the result thereof?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) and (b). No decision has yet been taken on the application of M/s. Orissa Agriculture Industries Ltd., as the question of lease of land for sugarcane cultivation by the company is still under dispute.

The application of M/s. Cotton Agents Ltd. for the establishment of a sugar factory at Baragarh was considered by the Licensing Committee but the decision was deferred for want of certain information from the applicants which has been called for.

Shri Sanganna: May I know whether the Government of Orissa has been consulted in the matter?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Yes, Sir; one of applications, they have recommended.

Shri Sanganna: May I know whether the proposal to establish these new factories in Orissa will not affect the existing sugar factories?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: That is one of the things that can be taken due notice of when granting the licence.

FORESTS

*1263. Shri S. C. Samanta: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) what percentage of India’s forests have been kept as reserve;

(b) what amount of wood from forests has been exploited during the First Five Year Plan;

(c) how much of the wood exploited has been used for extracting acetic acid, oils, creosote and some valuable drugs like sulphonamide and Chloroform; and

(d) the area of land at present covered by forests in India?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) to (d). A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix VII, annexure No. 6.]

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know how many varieties of timber can be available from Andamans and whether any attempt has been made to utilise them for other purposes?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: I must ask for notice of this question.
(b) whether a maund of rice is being sold at Rs. 30 at Agartala Town:

(c) whether it is creating starvation conditions to large sections of displaced persons and poor people in the towns and villages of Tripura, and

(d) what emergency measures are proposed by Government to ease this situation there?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) and (b). It is true that the price of rice in Tripura State has gone up and the present prevailing price of rice in Agartala is about Rs. 22 to Rs. 24 per maund for common rice.

(e) and (d). The rise in the price of rice is, no doubt, causing hardship to the people of Tripura. To meet the situation the State Government is arranging to open fair price shops in Agartala and the Sub-divisional Headquarters of the State for concessional sale of rice.

Shri A. P. Jain : There are sufficient stocks of rice or paddy in Tripura at present to go for a period of about 3 months and meet the requirements of Agartala, and more stocks of rice are proposed to be sent to Tripura to meet the demands of that State.

Shri Biren Dutt: What is the price proposed to be charged by the shops which are going to be opened by the Government of Tripura?

Shri A. P. Jain : We have not fixed the price as yet; it is under consideration, but that will be substantially lower than the price at which rice is selling there at present.
Shri A. P. Jain: We shall open fair price shops wherever they are needed.

Shri Dasaratha Deb: May I know whether the Government has received any representation from any non-official committee of Agartala, and if so, what are the demands put forward by them?

Shri A. P. Jain: I do not know of any non-official representation, but that is quite immaterial because we are taking all possible steps which are needed to meet the situation.

Shri Dasaratha Deb: May I know whether Government have ready stocks of foodstuffs, and if so, what is the amount apportioned for rice and paddy?

Shri A. P. Jain: At present we have 3,000 tons of paddy in Agartala which is now being converted into rice, which will be sent to fair price shops. This will be sufficient to meet the needs of Agartala for three months.

Shri S. C. Deb: May I know the cause for this rise in price of rice?

Shri A. P. Jain: So far as we have been able to ascertain the causes, there is a partial failure of the crops, that is, this year's crop is 8 or 9 per cent. less than that of the previous year. A more important cause in the rise in the price of rice in Pakistan, which has its reflex effect here. And then, a lot of smuggling is taking place from Tripura to Pakistan. We are thinking of creating a cordon sanitaire along the Pakistan border where people may not be allowed to stock rice so that smuggling may be stopped.

Shri Punnoose: May I know how long will the State Government take to arrange for fair price shops in those areas?

Shri A. P. Jain: The first information that we got was on the 15th March about abnormal rise in the price of rice. Some indication was there, but it was not of a magnitude which called for immediate action, but now action is called for and we are taking it.

**WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS**

**FOODGRAIN PRICES VARIATION ENQUIRY COMMITTEE**

**Shri Dabhi:**

*1224.*

Shri Radha Raman:

Shri Wodeyar:

Thakur Jugal Kishore Sinha:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 894 on the 16th December, 1955 and state:

(a) whether Government have since received the report of the Food-grain Prices Variations Enquiry Committee; and

(b) if so, the main recommendations thereof?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) Not yet.

(b) Does not arise.

**SUGARCANE**

*1227.* Shri Bishwa Nath Roy:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state whether in view of the target to be fixed for production of sugar in India under the Second Five Year Plan, any scheme has been finalised regarding development of sugarcane?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): Yes, Sir. Keeping in view the target proposed to be fixed for sugar production under the Second Five Year Plan, development schemes for sugarcane have been suitably expanded in States where they were already in operation and new schemes have been introduced in certain other States.

**RAMAGUNDAM – NIZAMABAD LINE**

*1228.* Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 61 on the 22nd November, 1955 and state:

(a) whether Railway Board have since concluded their examination of the report of traffic survey of the proposed rail-link between Ramagundam and Nizamabad, in Hyderabad State; and
(b) if so, the nature of the decision arrived at?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) and (b). Traffic survey of the Nizamabad-Ragundam project has not yet been completed.

ADVANCED TESTS FOR AIR PILOTS

*1230. Shri Sivamurthi Swami: Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided that all Pilots will have to pass advanced examinations in instrument flying before they are allowed to be commanders of public transport aircraft; and

(b) whether Government have secured, under the I.C.A.O. Technical Assistance Scheme, the help of an experienced Dutch pilot to help in arranging the necessary tests?

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

(b) The tests are arranged through specially trained and selected Indian pilots. The services of a Dutch pilot have been secured under the International Civil Aviation Organization Technical Assistance Scheme for checking airline pilots in general proficiency, emergency procedures and instrument flying.

BURNING OF A RAILWAY RAKE

*1233. Shri Tushar Chatterjea: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Railway rake lying at the Chandernagore Station (Hooghly District, West Bengal) was burnt on the 3rd February, 1956; and

(b) if so, whether any enquiry was made to ascertain the causes of the same?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) At about 21:30 hours on 3-2-56, one of the coaches of an empty rake of 12 bogie coaches, stabled in up Back Shunt siding at Chandernagore station on the Howrah-Bandel section of the Eastern Railway, caught fire as a result of which its body was burnt.

(b) A Joint Enquiry was held by a Committee of Railway Officers and their finding is that the bogie coach was set on fire by some miscreants.

PAKALA--DHARMAVARAM RAILWAY TRACK

*1235. Shri Viswanatha Reddy: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the re-laying of the track in the Pakala-Dharmavaram metre gauge section of the Southern Railway was to have been completed before 1955 according to original schedule;

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

(c) when is the work likely to be completed?

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

(b) Mainly due to shortage of permanent way materials and limitation in allotment of funds.

(c) With the renewals to be sanctioned in 1956-57, relaying of the whole section will have been provided for. The work will be pushed through as soon as the materials are received and completed without any delay.

CATERING ON CENTRAL RAILWAY

*1236. Ch. Raghunir Singh: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Railway Board have given notices to some contractors on Central Railway for the termination of their contracts;

(b) if so, what is the position of Mathura, Agra Cantonment, Gwalior and Jhansi stations; and

(c) whether Government propose to run their own departmental catering at their stations?
The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) Yes; to some contractors terminating their contracts from 1-4-56.

(b) No such notices have been served on contractors at Agra Cantt. and Gwalior.

Notices have been served for vacation of one catering contract at Mathura and all contracts at Jhansi. A statement furnishing the particulars of these contracts is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix VII, annexure No. 7.]

(c) Not at present, except at Jhansi where departmental catering has been introduced from 1-4-56.

**COMPOST MANURE**

*1239. Pandit D. N. Tiwary: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that since the last two years, less stress is given to the preparation of compost manure resulting in heavy fall in its production; and

(b) whether Government have any statistics to show the progress of compost preparation in the country for the last three years?

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

(b) Yes, the progress of urban compost production during the last three years is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Production in tons</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1952-53</td>
<td>16,93,753</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1953-54</td>
<td>18,34,785</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1954-55</td>
<td>20,14,488</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**VILLAGE LEVEL WORKERS**

*1240. Shri M. Islamuddin: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state the number of village level workers and supervisory personnel so far trained for community development work?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): The number of village level workers and supervisory personnel trained up to the end of February, 1956 is 12,397 and 1,416 respectively.

**FIREMEN STRIKE IN SECUNDERABAD**

*1242. Shri H. G. Vaishnav: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether a great number of firemen had gone on strike at Secunderabad in the middle of February, 1956;

(b) if so, what were their grievances;

(c) whether any inquiry has been made; and

(d) whether other workers also joined the strike for a day and that there was temporary dislocation of Train Services on that day?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) No strike as such was declared by the firemen at Secunderabad (Lallaguda Running Shed, Central Railway), but a number of them refused calls to work trains during the period from 15-2-56 to 21-2-56.

(b) The refusal to calls for work referred to in reply to part (a) of the question arose as a result of the introduction of a revised system of booking firemen which was being implemented in order to effect better utilisation of firemen and to give them experience on all services, which was not acceptable to some of the comparatively senior firemen who had been working on lighter duties.

(c) The matter was discussed with the representatives of staff during the period from 13-2-56 to 18-2-56.

(d) A number of workers of other establishments at Secunderabad also stopped work in sympathy on the morning of 21-2-56, but most of them resumed work by mid-day. The driving staff were, however, available for duty throughout the day. There was some dislocation of train services.
TRANSFER OF ASSISTANT STATION MASTERS ETC.

*1244. Shri Waghmare: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that on the Eastern Railway there is an order that Assistant Station Masters and other staff coming in contact with the public are to be transferred from one station to another at an interval of every three to five years; and

(b) if so, the reason as to why this order is not properly observed by Divisional Superintendent Sealdah of Eastern Railway in cases of the staff posted at Budge Budge, Lalgolaghat of Sealdah Division of Eastern Railway?

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

(b) Only a few employees who have completed 5 years at these stations, have been allowed to continue there for some time more. Steps have already been taken by the Railway Administration for the transfer of the said staff.

CALCUTTA PORT COMMISSIONERS’ SERVICE

*1251. Shri Ramananda Das: Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) whether the quota of appointments in the Office of the Calcutta Port Commissioners in Classes I, II, and III Services have been maintained for the Scheduled Castes;

(b) if so, the percentage of Scheduled Castes in these categories of Services, specially in the Medical and Health Department; and

(c) if not, the reason therefor?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) The Commissioners for the Port of Calcutta have adopted the Central Government orders regarding appointment of members of the Scheduled Castes to their services to the extent of reserving 12\% of vacancies in Class III and Class IV posts. No quotas have been fixed for Class I and Class II posts.

(b) The percentage is nil in the case of Class I and Class II and approximately 2 in the case of Class III. In the Medical and Health Departments the percentage is 8.6 in the case of Class III.

(c) The reason for not fixing quotas for Scheduled Castes in Class I and Class II posts is that these are mostly technical posts. The Commissioners are however reviewing the matter.

RAILWAY RATES TRIBUNAL

*1254. Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the average time taken in the disposal of cases by the Railway Rates Tribunal; and

(b) the average cost of each case to the Government?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) 237 days per case.

(b) Approximately Rs. 3,500.
Bridge across Chambal

*1264. Sardar Iqbal Singh: Sardar Akarpari:

Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1515 on the 25th March, 1955 and state the progress made in the construction of the bridge across the Chambal on Delhi-Bombay Road in Madhya Bharat?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): The work of construction of curtain walls, sinking of wells adjoining the walls and excavation of open foundation for piers are in progress.

Scheduled Caste Recruitment in Railways

*1265. Shri B. S. Murthy: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to the answer given to Starred Question No. 602 on 9th March, 1956 and state:

(a) whether any mention was made in the advertisement as to the number of vacancies reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for the posts of routine clerks and Assistants and the minimum qualifications required.

(b) how many sat for the written test and the number for viva voce:

(c) the number selected in each category of both communities?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) The advertisement related only to the filling of the posts of Routine Clerks. The number of vacancies was not specified. Matriculation was laid down as the minimum educational qualification.

(b) No. of candidates who participated in the written test—96.

No. of candidates out of the above who were subsequently interviewed—30.

(c) Scheduled Castes—19.
Scheduled Tribes—2.

Misappropriation by Postal Employees

744. Shri Karni Singhji: Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the number of case instituted against postal employees for misappropriation of public money in the Bikaner Division (Rajasthan during the years 1952-53, 1953-54 and 1954-55; and

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

The Minister in the Ministry of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1952-53</th>
<th>1953-54</th>
<th>1954-55</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(a) 5</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(b) Nil</td>
<td>1(one)</td>
<td>1(one)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Goods-shed at Dalmia Dadri Station

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

(a) whether a goods shed is to be constructed at Dalmia Dadri Station on Rewari Bhatinda line of Northern Railway; and
(b) if so, when the construction will start?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) The proposal is under consideration.

(b) This work will be considered for execution in the Second Five Year Plan Period.

HARDA-ITARSI-JUBBULPORE SECTION

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

(a) the main features of improvements and expansion proposed for each of the railway stations on the Harda-Itarsi-Jubbulpore section of the Central Railway during the Second Five Year Plan; and

(b) when the work of improvement and expansion will commence in respect of each of these stations?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) The main features are extension of waiting halls, extension, raising, surfacing and covering of platforms, improvements to circulating areas and improved latrines.

(b) List of stations on which work is already in progress and a tentative list of stations on which works are proposed to be commenced during the Second Five Year Plan period in the priority to be fixed by the Passenger Amenities Committee are attached. [See Appendix VII, annexure No. 8.]

INTEGRAL COACH FACTORY, PERAMBUR

747. Shri P. Subba Rao: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons sent to Switzerland from the Integral Coach Factory, Perambur, for training in technical jobs in 1954 and 1955;

(b) the amount of stipend paid to them;

(c) whether the stipends have been raised subsequently with retrospective effect for those trained in 1954 and 1955;

(d) whether retrospective effect is given only for 1955 and not for 1954; and

(e) the reasons for such discrimination?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) Sixty-four (64).

(b) No stipend, as such, is paid to them, but they are paid in addition to pay, Daily Allowance at the prescribed rates from time to time.

(c) No. The rates of daily allowance admissible to Government servants in Switzerland were revised by the Government with retrospective effect from 1-2-55. The revised rates were enforced as from that date in the case of the staff of the Integral Coach Factory, Perambur, also.

(d) and (c). The revised rates were effective from 1-2-55 only and therefore the question of giving retrospective effects to these rates from a date earlier than that does not arise.

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

748. Shri Ramkrishan: Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Technical Committee to advise Government on the amendments to be made in the list of occupational diseases has submitted its report; and

(b) if so, the nature thereof?

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

(b) The report is under examination.

STATE TOURIST ADVISORY COMMITTEE

749. Shri Ram Krishan: Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state the names of States which have not established State Tourist Advisory Committees so far?
The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): Madhya Pradesh, West Bengal, Bihar, Bombay, Madras, Orissa, Uttar Pradesh, Hyderabad, Saurashtra, Rajasthan, Trivancore-Cochin, Delhi, Bhopal, Vindhy Pradesh, Coorg, Andhra, Kutch and Tripura.

P. & T. OFFICES

750. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state the names of the places where post offices and telegraph offices and telephone public call offices have been opened in 1954 and 1955 and are proposed to be opened in 1956 in the Hoshiarpur District?

The Minister in the Ministry of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): A list is appended. [See Appendix VII, annexure No. 9]

PASSENGER AMENITIES

751. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state what amenities are going to be provided to passengers at different railway stations between Jullundur Cantt., and Hoshiarpur railway stations on the Northern Railway in 1956-57?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): Keeping in view the availability of funds, relative importance, urgency and need for works at different stations, the Railway Users Amenities Committee have only approved the work of extending the existing rail level platform at Sham Chaurasi station on the Jullundur Cantt.-Hoshiarpur section for inclusion in the Works Programme for 1956-57.

TRAVAIL DERAILMENT

752. Shri M. L. Agrawal: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the K. A. I. U. P. Goods Train of the North Eastern Railway was derailed on the 4th January, 1956 near Hathras; and

(b) what was the cause of the derailment?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) At about 9-40 hours on 4-1-56 while K. A. 1 Up Goods Train was running between Rati-Ka-Nagla and Hathras Jn. stations on the Kasganj-Achhnera main line section of North Eastern Railway, eight wagons commencing from the fourth from the engine derailed at mile 185/10-13.

(b) The finding of the Joint Enquiry held by a Committee of Senior Subordinate Officers of the Railway is yet under consideration. Prima facie, a defect in the axle brass of the wagon fourth from engine, viz. the first of the eight wagons which derailed appears to have caused the derailment.

RAILWAY COMPENSATION CLAIMS

753. Shri Krishnacharya Joshi: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been any decrease in the compensation claims for goods lost or damaged during 1955 as compared to previous year; and

(b) total amount of compensation paid on this account during 1954-55?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) While there has been an increase in the number of compensation claims preferred for goods lost 'or damaged during the year 1955 as compared with the previous years, the total amount paid as compensation on these accounts shows a decrease.

(b) Rs. 2,55,45,116.

QUARANTINE

754. Shri Ibrahim: Shri Krishnacharya Joshi:

Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons coming from foreign countries who were detained due to quarantine in India during 1955; and
(b) what are the main diseases for which they were detained?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) Forty nine persons coming from foreign countries were detained in the Yellow Fever Isolation Hospital at Bombay Airport, Santa Cruz during 1955.

(b) All these persons were quarantined because they had been at risk to yellow fever infection and were not protected against it.

QUILON SEA PORT BRIDGE

755. Shri Velayudhan: Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) whether a bridge is proposed to be constructed at the Quilon Sea Port for better port facilities; and

(b) if so, the cost thereof?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) and (b). The "bridge" mentioned in the question presumably refers to a pier. A scheme for the construction of a pier at Quilon port estimated to cost Rs. 16-52 lakhs was included in the First Five Year Plan. In the course of the investigation for fixing the site for the pier, an alternative proposal for locating the port at Neendakara, six miles north of Quilon where there are good facilities for establishing a well-sheltered lightering port was mooted. This proposal was referred by the State Government to a Committee whose report is now under examination by them.

Should the final decision be against the adoption of the alternative proposal, the construction of the pier at Quilon port will be proceeded with. Its revised estimate of cost is Rs. 10,20,800 and a tentative provision for this has been included in the Second Five Year Plan.

INSPECTORS OF POST OFFICES

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

(a) the actual number of Inspectors of Post Offices required in Hyderabad circle:

(b) the number actually working at present;

(c) the reasons for the inadequacy of staff; and

(d) when the deficiency, if any, is likely to be made up?

The Minister in the Ministry of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) 28.

(b) 25.

(c) The result of the last Inspectors' Examination is due to be published shortly when qualified officials will be available. The increased requirement is due to the recent opening of greater number of Post Offices in pursuance of the policy of improving postal facilities.

(d) The matter is under detailed examination and the shortage will be made up shortly.

गोसवन

७५७. श्री माय ललित गोपाल : क्या ललित गोपाल घोष मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या देश के विभिन्न गोसवनों में चन्द्रगुणों के चरण की पया दिया गया है?

(ख) गोसवनों में जो पनु भर जाते हैं उनकी हस्तक्षेपण अन्तर्गत का उपयोग करने के लिये क्या कोई प्रबंध नियम हैं?

(ग) यदि है, तो क्या प्रबंध नियम है?

ललित घोष मंत्री (श्री ए. पी. जेत) :

(क) जी हाँ।

(ख) जी हाँ।

(ग) गोसवन की मार्गदर्शन सहने से बचने के लिए फ्लेयर्स (Flayers) की आवश्यकता की गई है तथा राज्य सरकारों ने इन घोष के मीडियत घोष हस्ताक्षर को लाभ में लागू करने का इन्तजाम किया है।
TRAVELLING TICKET INSPECTORS

758. Ch. Raghurib Singh: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:
(a) whether it is a fact that several Ticket Collectors and Travelling Ticket Inspectors in Jhansi Division on Central Railways have sent representations to the authorities concerned regarding their seniority; and
(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to give decision?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) Yes.
(b) The matter is under consideration.

UNIFORM FOR RAILWAY EMPLOYEES

759. Ch. Raghurib Singh: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:
(a) whether it is a fact that the dresses to the employees of the Railways in Northern Zone are supplied every year;
(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that most of the Railway employees especially in Allahabad Division were not supplied dresses during 1955; and
(c) the reasons for this delay?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) Not yearly, but at intervals varying from one year to two years, in accordance with the Dress Regulations.
(b) and (c). The Summer uniforms were supplied in full. There has, however, been some delay in the supply of winter uniforms to some of the staff in question, for the following reasons:

(i) Late placement of contract for three years commencing from Winter 1955-56 due to time taken in this case for completing the formal enquiries and preliminaries:
(ii) Delays in deposit of security by tailoring contractors towards the cost of raw material to be made over to them for fabrication of garments; and
(iii) Failure by the contractors to adhere to the stipulated out-turn of garments.

LOCOMOTIVES

760. Sardar Iqbal Singh: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state the total value of imported parts for each locomotive manufactured at Chittaranjan?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): The estimated cost of imported components utilised in the manufacture of Locomotives during 1954-55 is about Rs. 1.44 lakhs per Locomotive.

RAILWAY BRIDGES

761. Sardar Iqbal Singh: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:
(a) whether there is any scheme for the construction of Railway bridge in Punjab and PEPSU for Motor Vehicles; and
(b) if so, their number and places where they will be constructed?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) As far as the Ministry of Railways are aware, there is no such proposal.
(b) Does not arise.

-EX-RAJASTHAN RAILWAY STAFF

762. Shri Bheekha Bhai: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:
(a) whether it is a fact that some Traffic Class III staff of the ex-Rajasthan State Railway (now Western Railway) have not yet been assigned their correct seniority;
(b) if so, the number of such staff; and
(c) what time it is likely to take for deciding such cases?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) No.
(b) and (c). Do not arise.
STAFF OF EX-STATE RAILWAYS

763. Shri Bheekha Bhai: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the officers of the ex-State Railways equated to class III posts are being utilised as class III staff and class III staff are subsequently promoted as class II;

(b) if so, the number of such persons in State Railways, who are working in reverted positions; and

(c) how the position of such officers is regularised?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) and (b). Some permanent Officers of the ex-State Railways were absorbed in class III, with effect from the date of integration. Subsequently, they were all promoted to class II. Of these, two were reverted to class III for unsatisfactory work.

(c) Orders have since been issued that the ex-State Railway Officers originally equated to class III with the exception of the two mentioned in (b) above, would be given an option either to continue under the conditions hitherto applicable to them, or to be permanently promoted to class II with retrospective effect from the date of Federal Financial Integration.

TOURISM (KASHMIR)

764. Shri Amjad Ali: Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state the facilities offered by the Government of India to the tourists to visit Kashmir?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): Concessional return tickets from a number of stations in India are issued to cover rail-cum-air and rail-cum-road journeys to Srinagar. Special and duplicate trains are run during the tourist season. Retiring rooms have been provided at the Pathankot Railway Station. A Guide to Kashmir, a Folder giving factual information on Kashmir and a map of Srinagar have been published.

SUGAR MANUFACTURING PLANT

765. Shri Gadilagana Gowd: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether Czechoslovakia has agreed to supply a Punjab Co-operative with a sugar plant;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government have permitted the Co-operative to enter into this agreement; and

(c) the main features of this agreement?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) Yes. M/s. Panipat Co-operative Sugar Mills Ltd., Panipat (District Karnal), have placed orders for the supply of a complete plant from Czechoslovakia through M/s. Skoda (India) Ltd.

(b) The sugar factories including the co-operative factories are free to purchase such of their requirements of machinery as are not manufactured in India from any country in the world with whom India has trade relations. As such the question of Government permission does not arise.

(c) It is not possible to give the main features of the agreement which has been entered into between two private parties.

ACCOMMODATION FOR P. & T. STAFF AT BOMBAY

766. Dr. Rama Rao: Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that great difficulty is experienced by the Posts and Telegraphs Staff to secure accommodation on transfer to Bombay; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to provide accommodation to such staff?

The Minister in the Ministry of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) and (b). The Government are fully aware of the difficulty experienced by the P. & T. staff in securing
accommodation on transfer to Bombay; and have decided to construct a sufficient number of quarters in Bombay for the P. & T. staff. In addition to 161 quarters then existing, additional 322 quarters were constructed and allotted to P. & T. staff during 1954-55. Proposals for the construction of 580 more quarters are being speedily finalised. The question of a sufficient percentage of these quarters being reserved for transferable staff is also under active consideration.

Trains to Mahamakham Festival

767. Shri Gadilingana Gowd: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the number of special trains that were run to and from Mahamakham at Kumbkonam;
(b) the special arrangements provided for the visitors; and
(c) the total amount of collection from the visitors?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) In all 334 special trains were run to and from Kumbkonam in order to clear the heavy traffic offering in connection with the Mahamakham festival at Kumbkonam during the period 20-2-56 to 28-2-56.
(b) Various special arrangements for the convenience and comfort of the passengers were provided as under:

(i) temporary covered platform with all amenities as water coolers, refreshment shall etc;
(ii) two temporary foot over bridges;
(iii) six waiting sheds for passengers;
(iv) five temporary booking offices with eighteen booking counters;
(v) Enquiry offices;
(vi) Loud-speakers at required places; telephone connections;
(vii) two Vegetarian Light Refreshment Rooms and four stalls of which one Refreshment Room and two stalls near the 3rd class Waiting Sheds, One Refreshment Room near the upper class Booking Office and one stall on the permanent platform and one on the temporary platform;
(viii) four police out-posts;
(ix) medical facilities;
(x) isolation sheds and issue of return tickets in II and III classes etc., etc.

(c) The total amount of collection from the visitors is Rs. 6,35,371-11-0. There will be a slight increase in the final figures in regard to passengers alighted as particulars from a few stations are yet not available.

Departmental Catering

768. Sardar A. S. Saigal: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Ahmedabad, Mahsana and Ratlam Stations were recommended and selected for departmental catering;
(b) if so, whether Ahmedabad has been dropped;
(c) if not, whether Government contemplate to undertake departmental catering at Ahmedabad; and
(d) the firm which has been given contract for the dining car on metre-gauge on 203 Up and 204 Down Express Trains between Delhi and Ahmedabad?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) to (c). There were various proposals under consideration including Ahmedabad. To begin with, departmental catering has been introduced at Mahsana and Ratlam from 1-4-56.
(d) M/s. R. S. Suchet Singh.

Fruit Production

769. Sardar Iqbal Singh: Sardar Akarpuri:

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

(a) the amount sanctioned to the States of Punjab, Himachal Pradesh and PEPSU during the year 1955-56 for fruit production schemes;
(b) whether they have requested for more financial assistance in this connection; and
(c) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) The following amounts have been sanctioned for fruit production schemes during 1955-56.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of the State</th>
<th>Amount Sanctioned during 1955-56 (Rs. in lakhs)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Punjab</td>
<td>Loan: Nil, Grants: Nil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pepsu</td>
<td>Loan: Nil, Grants: Nil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Himachal Pradesh</td>
<td>Loan: 0.30, Grants: 0.30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(b) No.
(c) Does not arise.

Sub-Post Offices

Sardar Iqbal Singh:
Sardar Akarpuri:

Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:
(a) the number of Sub-Post Offices in the State of Punjab and the number of the same working in rented buildings;
(b) the number of Sub-Post Offices in that State which have been provided with Government buildings from the year 1951 to the 31st January, 1956, year-wise and district-wise; and
(c) the names of the Sub-Post Offices for which Government buildings are now under construction in the said State?

The Minister in the Ministry of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Out of a total of 529 sub-post officers in the State of Punjab 440 are working in rented buildings.
(b) The number of sub-post offices provided with Government buildings year-wise and district-wise is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of District</th>
<th>Year of construction</th>
<th>No. of Quarters</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ambala</td>
<td>1953-54</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amritsar</td>
<td>1954-55</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karnal</td>
<td>1954-55</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rohtak</td>
<td>1955-56</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL** 7

(c) Government buildings for (a) M. A. O. College Sub-Post Office, Amritsar, and (b) Golden Temple Sub-Post Office, Amritsar, are under construction at present in the State of Punjab.

Agricultural Implements

771. Sardar Iqbal Singh:
Sardar Akarpuri:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:
(a) whether Government have formulated any scheme to effect improvements in the indigenous agricultural implements;
(b) if so, how far it has been put into operation; and
(c) if not, when it would be implemented?

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

(b) A scheme for the multiplication, distribution and trial of improved agricultural implements is in operation at the I.A.R.I. since October, 1953.
(c) Does not arise.

Restoration of Train Service in Southern Railway

772. Shri B. S. Murthy: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:
(a) whether the passenger train services curtailed during the war have been fully restored in the Southern Railway;
(b) if not the extent to which restoration has been done; and
(c) the steps proposed to be taken to complete the same?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) and (b). Except for about 46 and 119 shuttle trains on the broad and metre gauges respectively, all the pre-war train services on the Southern Railway have been restored.
(c) Out of the above trains yet to be restored, according to the present traffic trends, there is no justification for the restoration of 32 trains on the broad gauge and 99 trains on the metre gauge. The restoration of pre-war trains, wherever justified, will, however, receive a high priority, consistent with the availability of line capacity, coaching stock and locomotives.

RAYAGADA RAILWAY STATION

773. Shri Sanganna: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the travelling public do not get tickets in time due to shortage of booking staff at the Rayagada Railway Station in the South-Eastern Railway;

(b) whether it is a fact that one Assistant attends to issuing of tickets and to taking delivery of parcels from the Brake Van after the arrival of the trains: and

(c) whether the running staff such as Travelling Ticket Examiners and Travelling Ticket Inspectors are empowered to issue tickets at the station during the stoppage of the trains with or without prejudice to their legitimate duties?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) Government have received no complaint of this nature.

(b) Yes. At small stations, the Assistant Station Masters function also as Booking Clerks and Parcel Clerks, because traffic is very meagre.

(c) The travelling ticket examiners are empowered to issue excess fare tickets at stations during the stoppage of the train as per rules.

HALT OF TRAINS AT BHUBANESWAR

774. Shri Sanganna: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the travelling public are greatly inconvenienced due to short halts of all trains at Bhubaneswar:

(b) whether the Government of Orissa have made out a case for increase of the halting time of all trains at Bhubaneswar Railway Station in South-East Railway Zone; and

(c) if so, whether any action has been taken in this direction?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) No.

(b) No.

(c) Does not arise.

'ANDHA SHISHI' WEED

775. Shri U. M. Trivedi: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has been brought to the notice of Government that a weed known as 'Andha Shishi' is spreading in grazing lands in many parts of India, particularly Bombay, Madhya Bharat, Rajasthan and Punjab and has occupied considerable portion of grazing lands: and

(b) whether Government have taken any steps to meet this menace?

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

(b) Yes; experiments to control this weed by using chemical weedicides were conducted in Bombay State and at the Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi.

The results indicate that the weed can be effectively controlled by spraying 2, 4-D Ethyl ester just before the flowering stage.

EX-RAJASTHAN RAILWAY EMPLOYEES

776. Shri U. M. Trivedi: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the number of ex-Rajasthan Railway employees taken over by the Western Railway on its merger,

(b) the arrangements made for interest charges on Provident Fund accumulations of the ex-Rajasthan Railway employees.
(d) A private person admitted to paying beds in the general wards is charged Rs. 4 per day for accommodation, diet, nursing, medical attendance and medicines excluding special medicines. Those in special wards and cottages are charged at rates varying from Rs. 3 to Rs. 6 per day according to the accommodation occupied by them, exclusive of the cost of diet, which has normally to be arranged for by the patients themselves.

(e) Yes. Paying patients are also admitted to special wards and cottages in the Sanatorium.

**CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW STATION AT CHILLNOUR**

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

(a) the amount sanctioned for constructing a new station building covering the platform and providing other amenities including the approach road and circulating area in Chillnour near Tenali in Andhra;

(b) the date of sanction of the amount and the date on which the work on different items was completed; and

(c) the amount spent thereon?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) and (b). Presumably the Hon’ble Member is referring to Chiluvur station near Tenali, where the construction of a new station building and covering over the platform were sanctioned at a cost of Rs. 65,330 on the 30th August 1952. The construction of the station building along with water supply and drainage arrangements was completed in March 1954. Trusses for covering the platform are being manufactured. The scheme did not include the provision of circulating area by or improvement to station approach road.

(c) The up-to-date expenditure is Rs. 47,092.

**PARCELS ON RAILWAY PLATFORMS**

779. Shri Madiah Gowda: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to the notice of the Railway Board that in most of the important Railway Stations, parcels are dumped on the platforms, causing great inconvenience to the passengers; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to remove the inconvenience?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) No; not at most of the important Railway stations but only at some stations.

(b) A statement is attached. [See Appendix VII, annexure No. 10.]

**BEZWADA-MADRAS LINE**

780. Shri Madiah Gowda: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the steps being taken to improve the line capacity between Bezwada and Madras; and

(b) how far the traffic has improved on account of the improvement effected so far?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) Besides the provision of additional crossing stations and lengthening of loops the following major works have been sanctioned on the Bezwada—Madras Section and are in progress:—

(i) Remodelling of the Yard at Bezwada.

(ii) Conversion of Renigunta-Gudur Metre Gauge line to Broad Gauge.

(iii) Doubling of the Section between Bezwada and Gudur (in phases).

(b) Capacity of Section has been increased from 300 to 450 wagons per day.
RAYAGADA RAILWAY STATION

781. Shri Sanganna: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether any improvements have been proposed for the development of the Rayagada Railway Station on the South Eastern Railway;

(b) if so, what are they; and

(c) whether the work has commenced?

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

(b) (i) Provision of two additional reception lines in the yard.

(ii) Platform covers.

(iii) Septic tank latrine.

(iv) Platform Benches.

(c) The work of providing the two reception lines in the Yard has been included in the Works Programme for 1956-57 and the plan and estimates are under preparation. The remaining three works are proposed to be undertaken in subsequent years of the Second Five-Year Plan period.

STATISTICAL OFFICER, GORAKHPUR

782. Shri Rishang Keishing: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the post of statistical officer has been transferred from Gorakhpur to Calcutta; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) It was considered desirable to post a senior scale officer at Calcutta so that he can exercise greater authority and settle many matters on the spot without reference to the Headquarters office of the Railway at Gorakhpur. The senior scale post at Gorakhpur was therefore exchanged with the assistant officer's post at Calcutta.

SUGAR FACTORIES

783. Shri L. N. Mishra: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some new sugar mills are to be set up in Bihar during the Second Five-Year Plan period; and

(b) if so, their number, estimated cost and capacity?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) No application has been received so far for the establishment of any new sugar mills in Bihar.

(b) Does not arise.

रेलवे पुलिस संरक्षण वा ल

784. श्री रिशांग के शिंजिंग: क्या रेलवे मंत्री यह बताने की क्षमता करेगी कि:

(क) क्या यह मात्र रेलवे के सामिक्षार में रेलवे स्टेशन से रेलवे पुलिस संरक्षण वा ल को हटा लिया गया है? या गया?

(ख) यदि हैं, तो इसका क्या कारण है?

रेलवे तथा परिषद् उपभारों के (श्री प्रसन्नकुमार):

(क) जी नहीं।

(ख) तब तब नहीं उठला।

FLAG STATION AT PATTABHIPURAM

785. Shri S. V. L. Narasimham: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether any representation has been revived to arrange a Railway Flag Station near Pattabhipuram at Guatar; and

(b) if so, the decision taken thereon?

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

(b) As the provision for either a flag station or a halt was not justified, the request was not complied with.
GYPSON MINE

788. Shri Boovaraghasamy: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:
(a) the total number of Labourers working in gypsum mines in Perambalur Taluk in Tiruchi District (Madras State); and
(b) the facilities given to these labourers by the contractors?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Khandu Bhai Desai): (a) 1,559.

(b) The work in the mines is generally executed on a piece-rate basis. The labour is stated to be engaged directly by the managements and not through contractors. Excepting in two of the mines at Odhium facilities for drinking water, first-aid equipment, rest shelters etc. were not available at the mines, when they were inspected in February, 1956. Action is being taken to enforce the provisions of the Mines Act and Rules made thereunder in respect of such facilities.

DIVISIONAL SYSTEM ON SOUTHERN RAILWAY

789. Shri B. S. Murthy: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:
(a) the steps taken to introduce divisional system of working on the Southern Railway; and
(b) the number of divisions?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) The details are being worked out.

(b) It is proposed to have eight divisions on the Southern Railway with Headquarters at:
1. Madras.
2. Mysore.
3. Trichinopoly.
4. Madura.
5. Guntakal.
8. Olavakot.

KAKINADA PORT

790. Shri B. S. Murthy: Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:
(a) the amount allotted for the improvement of the port of Kakinada during the Second Five-Year Plan; and
The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagasan): (a) Rs. 18.15 lakhs.

(b) The above provision is intended to cover expenditure on the following schemes:

(1) Replacement of timber jetties with fine wharves

2.00

(2) Construction of 4 Nos. reinforced concrete jetties for Ore.

2.00

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagessen): (a) Rs. 18.15 lakhs.

(b) The above provision is intended to cover expenditure on the following schemes:

(Rs. in Lakhs)

(i) Schemes carried over from the First Plan:

1. Replacement of timber jetties with fine wharves

2.00


2.00

(ii) New Schemes:

1. Electric lighting of wharf walls and reinforced concrete jetties along the Commercial Canal including flood lighting of iron ore stacking area.

0.40

2. Realignment of Rly. track and road between railway goods shed and oil installation including acquisition of land for providing stacking area for iron ore.

2.25

3. Hydrographic survey of Kakinada Anchorages

0.50

4. Model experiments and collection of data for ascertaining whether a dredged deep water channel across Kakinada Bay is feasible.

1.00

5. Provision of a diesel tug of 250 H.P.

2.50

6. Improvements to groynes and revetment.

2.00

7. Improvements to canal boat wharf, stacking area and provision of fencing.

0.50

8. Provision of cranes, trolleys with trolley, lines and buckets for ore.

4.00

9. Reclamation of low lying areas including purchase of sand pump, diluting pump etc.

1.00

TOTAL 18.15

POST AND TELEGRAPH OFFICES

791. Mulla Abdullahai: Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Post and Telegraph Offices opened in Madhya Pradesh during 1952 to 1955 District-wise; and

(b) the total number of Post and Telegraph Offices to be opened during 1956?

The Minister in the Ministry of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) A statement giving the required information is placed on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix VII, annexure No. 12.]

(b) (i) Post Offices—About 450.

(ii) Combined Post and Telegraph Offices: 30 (subject to availability of stores).

POSTAL COMPLAINTS

792. Mulla Abdullahai: Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that misdeliveries and non-deliveries of letters have become a common factor in the city of Nagpur;

(b) the number of complaints received from the public in this respect during 1955; and

(c) the steps taken in the matter?

The Minister in the Ministry of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Fact is not as stated. Some cases of misdelivery and non-delivery have, no doubt, been reported and dealt with.

(b) Average number of articles received daily for delivery is about 60,000. Complaints received during the year 1955 are 272 against non-delivery and 56 against misdelivery out of which 37 were found, on enquiry, to be without basis.

(c) Improvement in delivery arrangement and introduction of surprise checks of delivery work and posting of test letters.
EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGE AT AGARTALA

794. Shri Dasaratha Deb: Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 729 on the 21st December, 1955 and state whether the employment Exchange has started functioning at Agartala?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Khandu Bhai Desai): No. It has not yet been possible to secure necessary accommodation.

DISPUTE BETWEEN SWASTI SAMITI AND TRIBAL PEOPLE

795. Shri Dasaratha Deb: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to refer to the reply given to the Starred Question No. 1773 on the 14th September 1955 and state:

(a) whether the disputes between the tribal people and the Swasti Samiti of Kanchanpur has since been settled; and

(b) if not, how long it will take to settle the disputes?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) and (b): It is understood from the Tripura State that in accordance with the amicable settlement agreed upon by the Swasti Samiti and Tribals, land will be reallocated according to actual possession after survey. Survey work has already commenced and is expected to be completed soon.

LIGHTING IN TRAINS

796. Shri Kirorilal: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether the passenger train going from Calcutta to Nagpur on the 17th March, 1956 in the evening was without light from Tiora Railway Station to Nagpur; and

(b) if so, whether any steps were taken to light the train?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) No, but the lights became dim during halts due to the batteries being in a run-down condition.

(b) Arrangements are being made to ensure that the batteries are charged more often.

RAILWAY EMPLOYEES’ PROVIDENT FUND

797. Pandit Lingaraj Misra: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Railway employee, resigning his post on grounds of health, after putting in
more than 12 years of approved service, is entirely denied of all share of the Railway's contribution to his Provident Fund and is only allowed a refund of his own share of contribution to the Fund; and

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal of revising the rule for the benefit of railway employees?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) No, Sir. Railway's contribution comprises of two parts viz., Government Contribution to Provident Fund and Special Contribution to Provident Fund. Government Contribution is not denied to a railway employee who resigns his job on grounds of health, after putting in 12 years of approved service except in respect of the subscriptions for the half year in which he resigns. Special Contribution, is however, payable to a non-gazetted employee on resignation after 15 years of service on grounds admitted by the Controlling Officer as good and sufficient from the point of view of the administration.

(b) No, Sir.
ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S.O. No.</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>1861-97</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1223</td>
<td>Wagon Shortage</td>
<td>1861-63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1225</td>
<td>Use of Hindi in Railway Admin-</td>
<td>1863-66</td>
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<tr>
<td>1226</td>
<td>Railway Wagons</td>
<td>1866-67</td>
</tr>
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<td>1229</td>
<td>&quot;Agmark&quot; Ghee</td>
<td>1867-69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1231</td>
<td>Shipping Officers</td>
<td>1870-71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1232</td>
<td>Rupnarain Bridge</td>
<td>1871-73</td>
</tr>
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<td>1234</td>
<td>Detention of Trains on Northern Railway</td>
<td>1873-74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1237</td>
<td>Corridor Railway Coaches</td>
<td>1874-75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1238</td>
<td>Shyambazar—Beliąghata Train Service</td>
<td>1875-76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1241</td>
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<td>1878-80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1245</td>
<td>Thefts in Trains</td>
<td>1880</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1246</td>
<td>Transfer of N. E. Railway Offices</td>
<td>1880-82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1247</td>
<td>Production of Oil</td>
<td>1882</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1248</td>
<td>Air Companies</td>
<td>1882-83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1249</td>
<td>Divisional Headquarters at Khurda Road</td>
<td>1883-84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1250</td>
<td>Meteorological Assistance to Afghanistan</td>
<td>1884-85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1252</td>
<td>Air Service</td>
<td>1885-86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1253</td>
<td>Demolition of Labourers’ Huts in Delhi</td>
<td>1886-88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1255</td>
<td>Hail-storms</td>
<td>1888-89</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

S.Q. No.  Subject

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S.Q. No.</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>1889-90</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1257</td>
<td>World Conference on Traffic Problems</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1258</td>
<td>‘Pay Strike’ of Railway Guards</td>
<td>1890-91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1259</td>
<td>Unlicensed Hawkers and Coolies on Railways</td>
<td>1891</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1260</td>
<td>Double Line between Madras and Vijayawada</td>
<td>1891-92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1261</td>
<td>Sanatorium treatment for Government Servants</td>
<td>1892-93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1262</td>
<td>Sugar factories in Orissa</td>
<td>1893-94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1263</td>
<td>Forests</td>
<td>1894-95</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

S.N.Q. No.

9 Rise in the Price of Rice in Tripura 1895-97

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS 1898-1936

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S.Q. No.</th>
<th>Subject</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1224</td>
<td>Foodgrain Prices Variation Enquiry Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1227</td>
<td>Sugarcane</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1228</td>
<td>Ramagundam—Nizamabad Line</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1230</td>
<td>Advanced tests for Air Pilots</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1233</td>
<td>Burning of a Railway Rake</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1235</td>
<td>Pakala-Dharmavaram Railway Track</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1236</td>
<td>Catering on Central Railway</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1239</td>
<td>Compost Manure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S.Q. No.</td>
<td>Subject</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------</td>
<td>------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1240</td>
<td>Village Level Workers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1242</td>
<td>Firemen strike in Secunderabad</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1244</td>
<td>Transfer of Assistant Station Masters etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1251</td>
<td>Calcutta Port Commissioner's Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1254</td>
<td>Railway Rates Tribunal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1256</td>
<td>Foodgrains</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1264</td>
<td>Bridge across Chambal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1265</td>
<td>Scheduled Caste Recruitment in Railways</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS—cont'd.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>U.S.Q. No.</th>
<th>Subject</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>744</td>
<td>Misappropriation by Postal Employees</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>745</td>
<td>Goods-shed at Dalmia Dadri Station</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>746</td>
<td>Harda—Itarsi—Jubbulpore Section</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>747</td>
<td>Intergral Coach Factory, Perambur</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>748</td>
<td>Technical Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>749</td>
<td>State tourist Advisory Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>750</td>
<td>P. &amp; T. Offices</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>751</td>
<td>Passenger amenities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>752</td>
<td>Train Derailment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>753</td>
<td>Railway Compensation claims</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>754</td>
<td>Quarantine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>755</td>
<td>Quillon Sea Port Bridge</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>U.S.Q. No.</th>
<th>Subject</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>756</td>
<td>Inspectors of Post Offices</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>757</td>
<td>Gosadans</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>758</td>
<td>Travelling Ticket Inspectors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>759</td>
<td>Uniform for Railway Employees</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>760</td>
<td>Locomotives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>761</td>
<td>Railway Bridges</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>762</td>
<td>Ex-Rajasthan State Railway Staff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>763</td>
<td>Staff of Ex-State Railways</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>764</td>
<td>Tourism (Kashmir)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>765</td>
<td>Sugar Manufacturing Plant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>766</td>
<td>Accommodation for P. &amp; T. Staff at Bombay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>767</td>
<td>Trains to Mahamakham Festival</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>768</td>
<td>Departmental Catering</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>769</td>
<td>Fruit Production</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>770</td>
<td>Sub-Post Offices</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>771</td>
<td>Agricultural Implements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>772</td>
<td>Restoration of Train Service in Southern Railway</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>773</td>
<td>Rayagada Railway Station</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>774</td>
<td>Halt of Trains at Bhubaneswar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>775</td>
<td>’Andha Shishi’ Weed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>776</td>
<td>Ex-Rajasthan Railway Employees</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>777</td>
<td>Sanatorium Treatment for Government Servants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S.Q.</td>
<td>Subject</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------</td>
<td>---------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>778</td>
<td>Construction of a New Station at Chillnour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>779</td>
<td>Parcels on Railway Platforms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>780</td>
<td>Bezwada-Madras Line</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>781</td>
<td>Rayagada Railway Station</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>782</td>
<td>Statistical Officer, Gorakhpur</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>783</td>
<td>Sugar Factories</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>784</td>
<td>Railway Protection Force</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>785</td>
<td>Flag Station at Pattabhipuram</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>786</td>
<td>Nationalisation of Private Railway Lines</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
LOK SABHA DEBATES

(Part II—Proceedings other than Questions and Answers)

VOL. III, 1956

(28th March to 17th April, 1956)

TWELFTH SESSION, 1956

(Vol. III contains Nos. 31—45)

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI
CONTENTS

[Part II Debates, Volume III—28th March to 17th April, 1956]

No. 31—Wednesday, 28th March, 1956

Columns

Motions for adjournment—

Insult to special Envoy of India at Karachi on Pakistan Republic day

Arrest of a Member

Release of a Member on Bail

Business of the House

3587-94

3594-95

3595-96

3596, 3598-99, 3710-14

Papers laid on the Table—

President's Assent to Bills

Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions—

Forty-eighth Report

Correction of Answer to Starred Question

Demands for Grants

Demand No. 22—Tribal Areas

Demand No. 23—External Affairs

Demand No. 24—State of Pondicherry

Demand No. 25—Miscellaneous Expenditure under the Ministry of External Affairs

Demand No. 119—Capital Outlay of the Ministry of External Affairs

Budget (Travancore-Cochin) 1956-57

Daily Digest

3596-97

3597

3597-98

3600-3708

3600-3708

3600-3708

3601-3708

3601-3708

3601-3708

3601-3708

3708-09

3715-18

No. 32—Thursday, 29th March, 1956

Papers laid on the Table

Calling attention to matter of Urgent Public Importance—

Re Condition of Hindus in East Pakistan and migration there from

Business of the House

Demands for Grants

Demand No. 22—Tribal Areas

Demand No. 23—External Affairs

Demand No. 24—State of Pondicherry

Demand No. 25—Miscellaneous expenditure under the Ministry of External Affairs

Demand No. 119—Capital Outlay of the Ministry of External Affairs

Resolution re: President's Prolclamation re: Travancore-Cochin

Demands for Grants on Account—Travancore-Cochin

Travancore-Cochin Appropriation (Vote on Account) Bill

Daily Digest

3719

3720

3720-76

3720-75

3720-75

3720-76

3720-76

3720-76

3720-76

3776-3854

3853-61

3861-62

3863-64
**No. 33—Saturday, 31st March, 1956**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Column</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Arrest and conviction of a Member</td>
<td>3865</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motion for adjournment—</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fast of Shri Balram Das Tandon</td>
<td>3866-70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Demands for Grants</td>
<td>3865-66, 3870-3957</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Demand No. 92—Ministry of Rehabilitation</td>
<td>3870-3957</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Demand No. 93—Expenditure on Displaced persons</td>
<td>3870-3957</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Demand No. 94—Miscellaneous Expenditure under the Ministry of Rehabilitation</td>
<td>3871-3957</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Demand No. 139—Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Rehabilitation</td>
<td>3871-3957</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Committee on Private Members’ Bills and Resolutions—</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forty-eighth Report</td>
<td>3957</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resolution re: Fixing a Target date for Prohibition</td>
<td>3957-81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resolution re: Appointment of a Committee on Industrial and Commercial State Undertakings</td>
<td>3982-4010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daily Digest</td>
<td>4011-12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**No. 34—Monday, 2nd April, 1956**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Column</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>President’s assent to Bills.</td>
<td>4013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Petition re: Proceedings of Legislatures (Protection of publication) Bill</td>
<td>4013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Demands for Grants</td>
<td>4014-4144</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Demand No. 92—Ministry of Rehabilitation</td>
<td>4014-94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Demand No. 93—Expenditure on Displaced persons</td>
<td>4014-95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Demand No. 94—Miscellaneous Expenditure under the Ministry of Rehabilitation</td>
<td>4014-95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Demand No. 139—Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Rehabilitation</td>
<td>4014-95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Demand No. 67—Ministry of Irrigation and Power</td>
<td>4095-4144</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Demand No. 68—Multipurpose River Schemes</td>
<td>4096-4144</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Demand No. 69—Miscellaneous Departments and Expenditure under the Ministry of Irrigation and Power</td>
<td>4096-4144</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Demand No. 134—Capital Outlay on Multipurpose River Schemes</td>
<td>4096-4144</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Demand No. 135—Other Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Irrigation and Power</td>
<td>4096-4144</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daily Digest</td>
<td>4145-46</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**No. 35—Tuesday, 3rd April, 1956**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Column</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Papers laid on the Table</td>
<td>4147</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Correction of Answer to Unstarred Question</td>
<td>4147</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Demands for Grants</td>
<td>4148-4262</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Demand No. 67—Ministry of Irrigation and Power</td>
<td>4148-4247</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Demand No. 68—Multipurpose River Schemes</td>
<td>4148-4248</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Demand No. 69—Miscellaneous Departments and Expenditure under the Ministry of Irrigation and Power. 4148-4248
Demand No. 134—Capital Outlay on Multipurpose River Schemes 4148-4248
Demand No. 135—Other Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Irrigation and Power 4148-4248
Demand No. 47—Ministry of Health 4249-62
Demand No. 48—Medical Services 4249-62
Demand No. 49—Public Health 4249-62
Demand No. 50—Miscellaneous Expenditure under the Ministry of Health 4250-62
Demand No. 130—Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Health 4250-62
Daily Digest 4263-64

No. 36—Wednesday, 4th April, 1956

Paper laid on the Table 4265
Petitions re: Report of States Reorganisation Commission 4265

Demands for Grants 4265-4396
Demand No. 47—Ministry of Health 4265-4318
Demand No. 48—Medical Services 4265-4319
Demand No. 49—Public Health 4265-4319
Demand No. 50—Miscellaneous Expenditure under the Ministry of Health 4265-4319
Demand No. 130—Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Health 4265-4319
Demand No. 101—Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply 4320-96
Demand No. 102—Supplies 4320-96
Demand No. 103—Other Civil Works 4320-96
Demand No. 104—Stationery and Printing 4320-96
Demand No. 105—Miscellaneous Departments and Expenditure under the Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply 4321-96
Demand No. 143—New Delhi Capital Outlay 4321-96
Demand No. 144—Capital Outlay on Buildings 4321-96
Demand No. 145—Other Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply 4321-96
Daily Digest 4397-98

No. 37—Thursday, 5th April, 1956

Demands for Grants 4399-4534
Demand No. 101—Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply 4399-4417
Demand No. 102—Supplies 4399-4417
Demand No. 103—Other Civil Works 4399-4417
Demand No. 104—Stationery and Printing 4399-4417
Demand No. 105—Miscellaneous Departments and Expenditure under the Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply 4399-4417
Demand No. 143—New Delhi Capital Outlay 4399-4418
Demand No. 144—Capital Outlay on Buildings 4399-4418
Demand No. 145—Other Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply 4399-4418
Demand No. 87—Ministry of Production 4421-4534
Demand No. 88—Salt 4421-4534
Demand No. 89—Other Organisations under the Ministry of Production 4421-4534
Demand No. 90—Government Collieries 4421-4534
Demand No. 91—Miscellaneous Departments and Expenditure under the Ministry of Production 4422-4534
Demand No. 138—Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Production 4422-4534

Daily Digest 4535-36

No. 38—Friday, 6th April, 1956

Papers laid on the Table 4537-38

Estimates Committee—

Twenty-fourth Report 4538
Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Orders (Amendment) Bill 4538-39
Delay in distribution of Annual Reports of Certain Ministries 4539-41

Demands for Grants 4541-4616
Demand No. 87—Ministry of Production 4541-53
Demand No. 88—Salt 4541-53
Demand No. 89—Other Organisation under the Ministry of Production 4541-54
Demand No. 90—Government Collieries 4541-54
Demand No. 91—Miscellaneous Departments and Expenditure under the Ministry of Production 4541-54
Demand No. 138—Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Production 4541-54
Demand No. 78—Ministry of Natural Resources and Scientific Research 4555-4616
Demand No. 79—Survey of India 4555-4616
Demand No. 80—Botanical Survey 4555-4616
Demand No. 81—Zoological Survey 4555-4616
Demand No. 82—Geological Survey 4556-4616
Demand No. 83—Mines 4556-4616
Demand No. 84—Scientific Research 4556-4616
Demand No. 85—Exploration of oil and natural gas 4556-4616
Demand No. 86—Miscellaneous Expenditure under the Ministry of Natural Resources and Scientific Research 4556-4616
Demand No. 137—Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Scientific Research 4557-4616

Child Sanyas Diksha Restraint Bill 4616
Proceedings of Legislatures (Protection of Publication) Bill—
Motions to consider and to refer to Select Committee ... 4616-59

Indian Penal Code (Amendment) Bill (Amendment of Section 429)—
Motion to consider ... 4689-72

Daily Digest ... 4673-76

No. 39—Monday, 9th April, 1956

Paper laid on the Table ... 4677
Delay in distribution of Annual Reports of certain Ministries ... 4677-80

Demands for Grants ... 4680-4822

Demand No. 78—Ministry of Natural Resources and Scientific Research ... 4680-4702
Demand No. 79—Survey of India ... 4680-4703
Demand No. 80—Botanical Survey ... 4680-4703
Demand No. 81—Zoological Survey ... 4680-4703
Demand No. 82—Geological Survey ... 4680-4703
Demand No. 83—Mines ... 4680-4703
Demand No. 84—Scientific Research ... 4680-4703
Demand No. 85—Exploration of Oil and Natural Gas ... 4680-4704
Demand No. 86—Miscellaneous Expenditure under the Ministry of Natural Resources and Scientific Research ... 4680-4704
Demand No. 137—Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Scientific Research ... 4680-4704
Demand No. 42—Ministry of Food and Agriculture ... 4705-4819
Demand No. 43—Forest ... 4705-4820
Demand No. 44—Agriculture ... 4705-4820
Demand No. 45—Civil Veterinary Services ... 4705-4820
Demand No. 46—Miscellaneous Departments and other Expenditure under the Ministry of Food and Agriculture ... 4705-4820
Demand No. 127—Capital Outlay on Forests ... 4706-4820
Demand No. 128—Purchases of Foodgrains ... 4706-4820
Demand No. 129—Other Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Food and Agriculture ... 4706-4822

Daily Digest ... 4823-24

No. 40—Tuesday, 10th April, 1956

Demands for Grants ... 4825-4958
Demand No. 70—Ministry of Labour ... 4826-4933
Demand No. 71—Chief Inspector of Mines ... 4826-4934
Demand No. 72—Miscellaneous Departments and Expenditure under the Ministry of Labour ... 4826-4934
Demand No. 73—Employment Exchanges and Resettlement ... 4826-4934
Demand No. 74—Civil Defence ... 4827-4934
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Demand No.</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Columns</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>136</td>
<td>Capital Outlay of the Ministry of labour</td>
<td>4827-4934</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>51</td>
<td>Ministry of Home Affairs</td>
<td>4935-58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>52</td>
<td>Cabinet</td>
<td>4935-58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>53</td>
<td>Delhi</td>
<td>4935-58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>54</td>
<td>Police</td>
<td>4936-58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55</td>
<td>Census</td>
<td>4936-58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>56</td>
<td>Privy Purses and Allowances of Indian Rulers</td>
<td>4936-58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>57</td>
<td>Andaman and Nicobar Islands</td>
<td>4936-58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>58</td>
<td>Kutch</td>
<td>4936-58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>59</td>
<td>Manipur</td>
<td>4937-58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60</td>
<td>Tripura</td>
<td>4937-58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>61</td>
<td>Relations with States</td>
<td>4937-58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>131</td>
<td>Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Home Affairs</td>
<td>4937-58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Daily Digest</td>
<td>4959-60</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

_No. 41—Wednesday, 11th April, 1956_

Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions—

Forty-ninth Report                                           4961

Demands for Grants                                            4961-5110
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Demand No.</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Columns</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>51</td>
<td>Ministry of Home Affairs</td>
<td>4961-5110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>52</td>
<td>Cabinet</td>
<td>4961-5110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>53</td>
<td>Delhi</td>
<td>4961-5110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>54</td>
<td>Police</td>
<td>4961-5110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55</td>
<td>Census</td>
<td>4961-5110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>56</td>
<td>Privy Purses and Allowances of Indian Rulers</td>
<td>4961-5110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>57</td>
<td>Andaman and Nicobar Islands</td>
<td>4961-5110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>58</td>
<td>Kutch</td>
<td>4961-5110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>59</td>
<td>Manipur</td>
<td>4961-5110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60</td>
<td>Tripura</td>
<td>4961-5110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>61</td>
<td>Relations with States</td>
<td>4961-5110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>131</td>
<td>Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Home Affairs</td>
<td>4961-5110</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Daily Digest                                                 5111-12
### No. 42—Thursday, 12th April, 1956

#### Demands for Grants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Demand No.</th>
<th>Ministry/Department</th>
<th>5113-5232</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>51</td>
<td>Ministry of Home Affairs</td>
<td>5113-28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>52</td>
<td>Cabinet</td>
<td>5113-29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>53</td>
<td>Delhi</td>
<td>5113-29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>54</td>
<td>Police</td>
<td>5113-29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55</td>
<td>Census</td>
<td>5113-29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>56</td>
<td>Privy Purses and Allowances of Indian Rulers</td>
<td>5113-29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>57</td>
<td>Andaman and Nicobar Islands</td>
<td>5113-29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>58</td>
<td>Kutch</td>
<td>5113-30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>59</td>
<td>Manipur</td>
<td>5113-30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60</td>
<td>Tripura</td>
<td>5113-30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>61</td>
<td>Relations with States</td>
<td>5113-30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>62</td>
<td>Miscellaneous Departments and Expenditure under the Ministry of Home Affairs</td>
<td>5113-30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>131</td>
<td>Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Home Affairs</td>
<td>5113-31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>66</td>
<td>Ministry of Iron and Steel</td>
<td>5132-94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>133</td>
<td>Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Iron and Steel</td>
<td>5132-94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Ministry of Commerce and Industry</td>
<td>5194-5232</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Industries</td>
<td>5195-5232</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Commercial Intelligence and Statistics</td>
<td>5195-5232</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Miscellaneous Departments and Expenditure under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry</td>
<td>5195-5232</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>113</td>
<td>Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry</td>
<td>5195-5232</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Papers laid on the Table: 5182
- Daily Digest: 5233-34

#### No. 43—Saturday, 14th April, 1956

#### Correction of Answer to Short Notice Question

|  | 5235-37 |

#### Demands for Grants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Demand No.</th>
<th>Ministry/Department</th>
<th>5237-5303</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Ministry of Commerce and Industry</td>
<td>5237-5303</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Industries</td>
<td>5237-5303</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Commercial Intelligence and Statistics</td>
<td>5237-5303</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Miscellaneous Departments and Expenditure under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry</td>
<td>5237-5303</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>113</td>
<td>Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry</td>
<td>5237-5303</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions—Forty-ninth Report

|  | 5303-04 |
Resolution re: Appointment of a Committee on Industrial and Commercial State Undertakings 5304-56
Resolution re: Nationalisation of Banks 5356
Daily Digest 5357-58

No. 44—Monday, 16th April, 1956

Motion for Adjournment—
Alleged Lathi Charge by Delhi Police. 5359-65
Business of the House 5365-66
President’s Assent to Bill 5366
Life Insurance Corporation Bill 5366

Demands for Grants—
Demand No. 1—Ministry of Commerce and Industry 5366-5498
Demand No. 2—Industries 5366-86
Demand No. 3—Commercial Intelligence and Statistics 5366-86
Demand No. 4—Miscellaneous Departments and Expenditure under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry 5366-86
Demand No. 113—Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry 5366-86
Demand No. 17—Ministry of Education 5366-86
Demand No. 18—Archaeology 5387-5482
Demand No. 19—Other Scientific Departments 5387-5483
Demand No. 20—Education 5387-5483
Demand No. 21—Miscellaneous Departments and Expenditure under the Ministry of Education 5387-5483
Demand No. 118—Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Education 5388-5483
Demand No. 26—Ministry of Finance 5388-5483
Demand No. 27—Customs 5484-98
Demand No. 28—Union Excise Duties 5484-98
Demand No. 29—Taxes on Income including Corporation Tax and Estate Duty 5484-98
Demand No. 30—Opium 5484-98
Demand No. 31—Stamps 5485-98
Demand No. 32—Payment to other Governments, Departments etc. on account of the Administration of Agency Subjects and Management of Treasuries 5485-98
Demand No. 33—Audit 5485-98
Demand No. 34—Currency 5485-98
Demand No. 35—Mint 5485-98
Demand No. 36—Territorial and Political Pensions 5486-98
Demand No. 37—Superannuation Allowances and Pensions 5486-98
Demand No. 38—Miscellaneous Departments and other Expenditure under the Ministry of Finance 5486-98
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Demand No.</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Column</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>39</td>
<td>Grants-in-aid to States</td>
<td>5486-98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40</td>
<td>Miscellaneous Adjustments, between the Union and State Governments</td>
<td>5487-98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41</td>
<td>Pre-partition Payments</td>
<td>5487-98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>120</td>
<td>Capital Outlay on the India Security Press</td>
<td>5487-98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>121</td>
<td>Capital Outlay on Currency and Coinage</td>
<td>5487-98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>122</td>
<td>Capital Outlay on Mints</td>
<td>5487-98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>123</td>
<td>Committed Value of Pensions</td>
<td>5488-98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>124</td>
<td>Payments to Retrenched Personnel</td>
<td>5488-98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>125</td>
<td>Other Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Finance</td>
<td>5488-98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>126</td>
<td>Loans and Advances by the Central Government</td>
<td>5488-98</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Daily Digest | 5499-5500

### No. 45, Tuesday, 17th April, 1956

**Business Advisory Committee**

- Thirty-second Report | 5501
- Correction of Answers to Starred Questions | 5501-04

**Demands for Grants** | 5504-5612

- Demand No. 26—Ministry of Finance | 5504-5603
- Demand No. 27—Customs | 5504-5603
- Demand No. 28—Union Excise Duties | 5504-5603
- Demand No. 29—Taxes on Income including Corporation Tax and Estate Duty | 5504-5603
- Demand No. 30—Opium | 5504-5604
- Demand No. 31—Stamps | 5504-5604
- Demand No. 32—Payments to other Governments, Departments etc. on account of the Administration of Agency Subjects and Management of Treasuries | 5504-5604
- Demand No. 33—Audit | 5504-5604
- Demand No. 34—Currency | 5504-5604
- Demand No. 35—Mint | 5504-5604
- Demand No. 36—Territorial and Political Pensions | 5504-5604
- Demand No. 37—Superannuation Allowances and Pensions | 5504-5605
- Demand No. 38—Miscellaneous Departments and other expenditure under the Ministry of Finance | 5504-5605
- Demand No. 39—Grants-in-aid to States | 5504-5605
- Demand No. 40—Miscellaneous Adjustments, between the Union and State Governments | 5504-5605
- Demand No. 41—Pre-partition Payments | 5504-5605
- Demand No. 120—Capital Outlay on the India Security Press | 5504-5605
- Demand No. 121—Capital Outlay on Currency and Coinage | 5504-5606
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Demand No.</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Pages</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>122</td>
<td>Capital Outlay on Mints</td>
<td>5504–5606</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>123</td>
<td>Commuted Value of Pensions</td>
<td>5504–5606</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>124</td>
<td>Payments to Retrenched Personnel</td>
<td>5504–5606</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>125</td>
<td>Other Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Finance</td>
<td>5504–5607</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>126</td>
<td>Loans and Advances by the Central Government</td>
<td>5504–5607</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>63</td>
<td>Ministry of Information and Broadcasting</td>
<td>5607–10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>64</td>
<td>Broadcasting</td>
<td>5607–10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65</td>
<td>Miscellaneous Departments and Expenditure under the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting</td>
<td>5607–10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>132</td>
<td>Capital Outlay on Broadcasting</td>
<td>5607–10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>75</td>
<td>Ministry of Law</td>
<td>5607–10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>76</td>
<td>Administration of Justice</td>
<td>5607–11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>77</td>
<td>Miscellaneous Expenditure under the Ministry of Law</td>
<td>5607–11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>106</td>
<td>Department of Atomic Energy</td>
<td>5607–11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>107</td>
<td>Atomic Energy Research</td>
<td>5607–11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>146</td>
<td>Capital Outlay of the Department of Atomic Energy</td>
<td>5607–11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>108</td>
<td>Department of Parliamentary Affairs</td>
<td>5607–12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>109</td>
<td>Lok Sabha</td>
<td>5607–12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>110</td>
<td>Miscellaneous Expenditure under the Lok Sabha</td>
<td>5607–12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>111</td>
<td>Rajya Sabha</td>
<td>5607–12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>112</td>
<td>Secretariat of the Vice President</td>
<td>5607–12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Finance Bill—**
- Motion to consider                  | 5612–20 |
- Daily Digest                         | 5621–22 |

GIPN—S. V—45 Lok Sabha/56—5-4-57—840.
LOK SABHA
Friday, 6th April, 1956

The Lok Sabha met at Half Past Ten of the Clock.

[Mr. Speaker in the Chair]

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
(See Part I)

11:33 A.M.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

STATEMENTS SHOWING ACTION TAKEN BY GOVERNMENT ON ASSURANCES ETC.

The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Satsya 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) First Statement.
Twelfth Session, 1956 of Lok Sabha.
(See Appendix VII Annexure No. 13)

(2) Supplementary Statement No. IV
Eleventh Session, 1955 of Lok Sabha.
(See Appendix VII, Annexure No. 14)

(3) Supplementary Statement No. VIII
Tenth Session, 1955 of Lok Sabha.
(See Appendix VII, Annexure No. 15)

(4) Supplementary Statement No. XIV
Ninth Session, 1955 of Lok Sabha.
(See Appendix VII, Annexure No. 16)

(5) Supplementary Statement No. XVIII
Eighth Session, 1954 of Lok Sabha.
(See Appendix VII, Annexure No. 17)

(6) Supplementary Statement No. XXVIII
Sixth Session, 1954 of Lok Sabha.
(See Appendix VII, Annexure No. 18)

(7) Supplementary Statement No. XXXIII
Fifth Session, 1953 of Lok Sabha.
(See Appendix VII, Annexure No. 19)

(8) Supplementary Statement No. XXXVI
Fourth Session, 1953 of Lok Sabha.
(See Appendix VII, Annexure No. 20)

(9) Supplementary Statement No. XIII
Third Session, 1953 of Lok Sabha.
(See Appendix VII, Annexure No. 21)

(10) Supplementary Statement No. XXXIX
Second Session, 1952 of Lok Sabha.
(See Appendix VII, Annexure No. 22)

ESTIMATES COMMITTEE

TWENTY-FOURTH REPORT

The Minister of Home Affairs (Pandit G. B. Pant) : I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the inclusion in, and the exclusion from the lists of Scheduled Castes and of Scheduled Tribes, of certain castes and tribes and matters connected therewith.

Mr. Speaker : The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the inclusion in, and the exclusion from, the..."
lists of Scheduled Castes and of Scheduled Tribes, of certain castes and tribes and matters connected therewith."

The motion was adopted.

Pandit G. B. Pant: I introduce the Bill.

DELAY IN DISTRIBUTION OF ANNUAL REPORTS OF CERTAIN MINISTRIES

Shri Kamath (Hoshangabad): Before we proceed to the other item, may I say this? I invited your attention yesterday to the fact that it was unfortunate and even detrimental to the growth of a sound and efficient parliamentary system, that some Ministries' Demands should be put to the vote of the House without any discussion. I referred in this connection to the Demands of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, for which no time has been allotted for discussion. I am constrained to say that it has given rise to laxity and irresponsibility on the part of the Ministry which has not so far cared to make available to us its report and summary as other Ministries, whose Demands are before the House, for discussion, have already done. There is another Ministry, the Ministry of Law, for which no time is allotted for discussion, and the same thing has happened in that Ministry: they have not made available to us their annual report as other Ministries have done, and only a summary of the Ministry has come—not its report. I am, therefore, constrained to voice my suspicion that unless there is proper goading and prodding of the Ministries by the House, they will continue to remain somnolent. This state of affairs should be rectified without much delay. I am sure you share the views that I have just expressed, and I would appeal to you to take strong action in this matter immediately. Unless action is taken immediately, this somnolence will tend to aggravate in the Ministries whose Demands are not coming up before the House for discussion.

Mr. Speaker: Neither of the Ministers is here, but it is not their fault. I would only urge upon the hon. Member who has raised this point to give me sufficient notice and also to the Ministers so that they may be presented here. In this case I gave special permission.

Shri Kamath: I gave notice.

Mr. Speaker: Just now. How can I draw the Ministers here? Therefore, instead of merely taking the opportunity to criticise the Ministers, it would be better if hon. Members, who wish to raise such points, give sufficient notice to me and to the Ministers. In this case, I cannot anticipate their reasons. Because the Sub-Committee and the Business Advisory Committee did not choose to allot time during this session for discussion or debate for the voting on grants relating to the Information and Broadcasting Ministry and the Law Ministry, they might not have sent round their reports. It may be . . .

Shri Kamath: No, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member excludes the possibility of this one per cent. It may be that because of this they have not circulated their reports etc. Therefore, hereafter, I will insist upon all hon. Members to give me sufficient notice so that wherever the Ministers have to give certain information on the points, nothing shall be said in their absence because they could not be present here for want of sufficient notice. Ultimately, of course, whatever has to be done will be done. Therefore, I am not going to take note of this matter now. I request the hon. Ministers to be in the House next day when we meet so that they may state to the House as to why they have not sent in their reports for perusal by Members—administration reports and other reports. If they have got, they must send them round. So far as the other question is concerned, namely, allotting of more time, I have already said that it is too late for this year, and therefore it will be considered next time.

Shri Kamath: May I know whether when a Ministry's Demands are not posted for discussion in the House, the Minister is not aware that those Demands may be discussed during the general discussion of the Budget or in the discussion of the Finance Bill, for which these reports, etc., should be made available?
Mr. Speaker: We will discuss all those matters, and this matter will stand over for the next day. Meanwhile, the hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs will inform the Ministers concerned and request them to be kindly present here.

*DEMANDS FOR GRANTS*

Mr. Speaker: The House will now resume further discussion of the Demands for Grants relating to the Ministry of Production. Out of 6 hours allotted for the Demands of this Ministry, 5 hours and 24 minutes have already been availed of and 36 minutes now remain.

Shri Kanhu Ram Deogam will now continue his speech.

Mr. Speaker: We will discuss other matters, and this matter will stand over for the next day. Meanwhile, the hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs will inform the Ministers concerned and request them to be kindly present here.

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Mr. Speaker: We will discuss other matters, and this matter will stand over for the next day. Meanwhile, the hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs will inform the Ministers concerned and request them to be kindly present here.
During the year, a number of export duties were abolished or reduced in the interest of our export trade. The result of this was that the total national income over the First Five Year Plan period would have increased by some eighteen per cent as against eleven per cent increase envisaged in the Plan. When we look at all these figures and when we see that our national income has considerably increased, we feel glad.

But the Finance Minister himself says that notwithstanding the progress achieved in different sectors of economy, the employment situation in the country remains a matter of concern. Meanwhile, from the rather inadequate data furnished by the employment figures it would appear that unemployment in the urban areas is increasing. When the production and the wealth of our country are increasing, why should this be so? One does not understand. When every one says that our national wealth is increasing the common man feels that he is getting poorer and poorer. What is the reason for this?

The Co-operative Department have themselves explained this in the following words:

"Most productive work nowadays is conducted under the following conditions. The work is controlled by a small body of three or five men who usually have only a very small theoretical and no practical knowledge at all of the work but who have an intimate knowledge of banking, credit and the principles of quick turn-over and profit percentages. This small body of men is in turn nominally control by a somewhat larger body of men who finance the business but who have no knowledge of the work and its conditions and usually have no knowledge of banking or business either. The actual work, on the other hand, is done by a very large body of men who are paid low wages, who have no voice in the management of the business or the nature of their work, who are liable to be turned off whenever the controllers consider that the step will be profitable to themselves and who in turn do as bad work as possible, since they can have no motive for doing decent work."

That is how our industries are run.

Shri Giri, our former Labour Minister, speaking on the Budget said that the provision of good conditions of work for workers was not enough. The workers naturally desire a voice in the control of the industrial system, says he. The time has come when everybody, especially the employers, realised the hard fact that workers were no longer hewers of wood and drawers of water. Shri Giri anticipated that a time would come when the public sector would absorb the private sector under certain conditions. He, therefore, wanted the public sector to be in a position to set an example to the private sector in the matter of wages and other conditions of life for the workers. So, what I feel is that the time has come when we should find some way out of this difficulty.

We know that our Government had appointed so many committees—for example, the Karve Committee and the Village Industries Board—who have recommended what sort of industries there should be for the people in India. They are: khadi, hand-made paper, village oil industry, hand-pounding of rice, atta/chakkis, spinning, palm gur industry etc., etc. These are the industries recommended for the people of India.

I just visited one or two of the intensive village industry centres and went through the register to see how the wages are given to the people. I found that the wages are calculated on piece-work basis, which is one anna per hour and eight annas per day. That means, if a worker works for eight hours continuously then he would get only eight annas at the end of the day. That also is
only for 25 days in a month, which means that a worker will get at the end of the month Rs. 12-8-0 by way of salary. How can one person even eat sufficiently with such a small amount?

Then I visited some of the destitute homes where also such village industries are run. There also, from the catalogue I found, the lowest was Rs. 8-0-0 a month and the highest was Rs. 20-0-0 per worker. This is the way our committees are recommending industries and work for our people.

When I went through the report of the Industrial Finance Corporation I found that the private sector is running industries like electrical industries, Bengal potteries, glass works, metal and alloys, iron and steel, vanaspithi, oil mills, cement, textiles etc., etc. For these industries also they are getting a lot of help from the Government—financial help as well as relaxation of taxes and all that. One moment I feel, let us exchange these two lists. Let the people get all these big industries to be run and let the private sector run the industries like khadi, hand-pounding of rice, palm gur and other things. The Government is helping in both the cases. Then only you will realise how people can live on such small wages.

Then I went further through the papers to find out if the Government have done anything for the people. I came across the Finance Minister’s speech. Here he says:

“Special measures were taken during the year for the promotion and development of small industries. A National Small Industries Corporation has been set up and four regional Small Industries Service Institutes opened.”

I tried to take advantage of this. I thought, there are so many unemployed people in our country, who are, many of them, technical experts also, but they cannot start a concern because they have no money. Therefore, if the Government, could advance the entire capital for any concern, ask a group of workers to come together and work out a scheme, it would be profitable for the people as well as the Government. When I further applied my mind in this direction I found that the Government of India, in their memorandum dated 4-6-1955, had arranged for special types of industrial co-operatives, where the workers themselves are members and would share in the profits. The Central Government would sanction specific schemes sent up by State Governments on the following basis. The memorandum says that 75 per cent of the share capital to be advanced by the Centre and the remaining 25 per cent to be found by the State Government and/or the party concerned. 75 per cent of the working capital also was to be advanced by the Central Government and 25 per cent to be found by the State Government. This means that the entire capital for any small concern can be advanced by the Government if a group of workers could form an industrial co-operative and work out a scheme for running a small concern.

On this basis I just submitted a scheme, for manufacturing radio transformers, to our Planning Commission. I am glad to say that this scheme was passed and the Government have sanctioned the entire amount of the capital for this industry to be run by a group of workers as an industrial co-operative. I should like to say that in this small concern, where we are just trying to make only parts of a radio, it is possible to allow the workers eight annas per hour over and above their share in the profits. Therefore, with the help of Rs. 1 lakh by way of capital from the Government we will be able to give employment to 40 persons who will get a minimum wage of eight annas per hour and a maximum wage equal to four or five times the minimum. So, if the Government is ready to render help like this we can multiply any amount of such concerns in this country.

The Finance Minister has said in his report, that among the more important new projects that will be taken up during the coming year is the setting up of a heavy electrical equipment factory in the public sector for the manufacture of electric generators, transformers, switch gears, turbines for river valley projects and traction equipment for railways. What I feel is that all these concerns should be started by industrial co-operatives of the special type which the Government of India have recommended.

The Machine Tool Factory and the Hindustan Cable Limited are given to some private limited companies. Henceforth, I would request, the Government to give such industries to industrial co-operatives. The Government want 25,000 village radios set per year during
the next five years. 15 lakhs of bicycles will be required in our country during the next five years. More cement will be required. There are so many railway parts that are to be prepared. If we do all this work by industrial co-operatives on group basis where the workers are the sharers in the profits then I feel that the problem, that there is still unemployment even when the production is increasing, will disappear and we will be able to give employment to millions of people in our country. We will also be able to pay them a sufficient wage on which they can maintain themselves properly.

The Deputy Minister of Production (Shri Satish Chandra): Mr. Speaker, Sir, my senior colleague the Minister of production, gave a very comprehensive reply yesterday to the points raised during the debate. In fact, I find that there is not much which I can usefully add to what he has already said.

Several Members, during the course of the debate referred to such subjects as coal, gold-mines, co-operative spinning mills, cement, exploitation of minerals other than coal, locomotives, small-scale industries etc. The hon. Member who spoke last referred to radio sets, bicycles and engineering goods required by the railways. It was made clear by the Minister yesterday, that the Production Ministry deals only with a limited number of subjects. There will be other occasions when hon. Members can speak about these industries. The Ministry of production is not quite competent to give answers as far as these industries are concerned.

12 NOON

My friend Shri Raghunath Singh, in opening the debate emphasized the need for establishing a second shipyard. He was supported by Shri Matthen and Shri A. M. Thomas. As far as the need for setting up a second ship-building yard is concerned, there are no two opinions. The target for Indian shipping at the end of the Second Five Year Plan period is 9 lakh tons. During the next five years, about 90,000 tons will have to be replaced. All that the Hindustan Shipyard will be able to build during the next five years is 75,000 to 90,000 tons, depending on the type of ships to be constructed. Therefore, the output from the present shipyard will be hardly sufficient to meet the replacement re-

requirements of the Indian merchant fleet. That being the position, the Government accepts the necessity for starting a second shipyard. A thriving merchant fleet and a healthy ship-building industry are necessary for the growth of our national economy.

The problem, however, is that various sectors of national economy including transport, industry, power, agriculture, social services etc., make rival claims on the available resources, and certain priorities have got to be allotted. The Planning Commission is fully seized of this matter and after considering all aspects it has been decided that arrangements should be made immediately to train the requisite personnel to man the second shipyard. Provision has been made in the Plan for this purpose. More recruits will be taken in the existing shipyard. They will be trained gradually so that in the middle or by the end of the second Plan period, the Government will be in a position to consider the possibility of taking some concrete steps for the establishment of another shipyard. I think that it will be possible even during the course of this year to plan for such training and to take some steps in that direction.

Shri Raghunath Singh referred to the system of charging the United Kingdom parity prices. There has been a demand from the shipping companies that the cheapest world price should be the guiding factor in determining the price that they are asked to pay to the shipyard. Considering the fact that our ship-building industry is in its infancy and almost all the shipyards in the world are booked for many years, the present arrangement is not very unsatisfactory. However, the Planning Commission is considering this matter. There have not been any loud protests from the shipping companies against this arrangement. I think that the present system is by and large satisfactory.

Shri B. D. Pande (Almora Distt.—North-East): How long will it take for our shipyard to become a full-fledged one?

Shri Satish Chandra: It is a full-fledged one.

Shri B. D. Pande: You said it is in its infancy.

Shri Satish Chandra: There is only one major shipyard in the country. The possibility of starting a second shipyard is being considered at present.
The simultaneous development of ancillary industries is also very important. For the development of the ancillary industries such as the manufacture of propelling machinery, electrical equipment or numerous other gadgets which go into the building of a ship, we must depend to a large extent on the general industrial development in the country. Many requirements of a ship, even in technologically advanced countries of the world, are supplied by other industries. The making of a hull does not make a ship. I hope that it will be possible in due course to take concrete steps for the manufacture of propelling machinery which is at present imported. The work of a major shipyard will be very much facilitated with the growth of large-scale industries in the country.

Shri Raghunath Singh wanted to know the present position of the orders pending with the Hindustan Shipyard. The Shipyard has already got orders for 14 vessels. Ten of these are large ships and four are smaller vessels required by ports, etc. We expect to get orders for two more ocean-going ships but the keels for these cannot be laid earlier than the middle of 1957. So, we are not very much worried about the orders. In fact, fresh orders have been promised to us and we hope to get them.

I may say a few words about the Industrial Management Service. The Government are considering the question of establishing a joint Industrial Management cadre for the State undertakings. The proposal is to have a common pool of administrative officers for the industrial enterprises, controlled by the Ministry of Production. Other Ministries may join the scheme later on. It will be followed soon by an Industrial Technical cadre. The Industrial Management cadre will be a common cadre for managerial personnel consisting of officers who have experience of administration, accounts, audit, stores purchase, sales, etc. The Industrial Technical cadre will consist of chemical, electrical and mechanical engineers and the technologists required by various State industrial undertakings. The Industrial Management cadre will meet to some extent the wishes of the Members of this House and the Estimates Committee. I hope that some decision will be taken at a very early date.

There has been some discussion about the role of the public sector and the private sector in the national economic development. I do not wish to go into the details. There are only a few minutes at my disposal. The question has already been dealt with by my senior colleague yesterday. I would only say that in the context of the next Five Year Plan, Government are considering the revision of the Industrial policy announced in 1948. The revised resolution will recognise the existing state of affairs. I hope that the scope of the public sector will be considerably enlarged in the light of the developments that have taken place during the last 8 years.

I have nothing much to say about the coal industry because it has been dealt with comprehensively yesterday. The only thing I can add is that it has been decided to wash all the coal required for metallurgical purposes. Some big washeries may be set up in the public sector. Orders have been placed in Japan for the purchase of a big washery plant to wash the coal raised in the Bokaro and Kargali mines. A few washeries may be established alongside the steel plants as a part of the steel project. Washing of metallurgical coal will help considerably in the conservation of better grades of coal.

I do not think that the Minister referred yesterday to the lignite investigations. Considerable progress has been made in the investigations now being carried on at Neiveli. Sixteen pumps are already working and about 17 to 18,000 gallons of water is being pumped out every minute. This has lowered down the water level considerably. It has, however, been found that more pumps will have to be installed. Pumps have already been ordered and are soon arriving at the site. It is expected that the project will be a success. The indications are very encouraging. As soon as it is established that lignite can be exploited economically, a multi-purpose Corporation may be set up for generation of electricity, for briquetting of lignite to be used as domestic as well as industrial fuel, for setting up certain by-product industries and for the production of fertilisers. If the lignite project goes through, a fertilizer plant to manufacture 80,000 tons of nitrogen will be set up at Neiveli itself. In this connection, I may refer to a report that appeared in one of the morning papers today. Its special representative has reported that the site at Bhakra alone has been decided. I want to correct
[Shri Satish Chandra]

that impression. It is not exactly so. The sites for all the three fertiliser factories have been decided. One will be located at Nagal, the other at Rourkela, utilising the gases from the steel plant and the third at Neivilu subject, of course, to the successful exploitation of lignite which is considered all most a certainty.

Shri G. D. Somani said yesterday that Rajasthan salt is the cheapest and the best and that the Government should increase production with a view to provide employment. I am not prepared to admit that Rajasthan salt is necessarily the best or the cheapest. There are other salt sources where percentage of sodium chloride is better and salt can be manufactured more cheaply. Apart from that, however, Government are considering the development of Rajasthan salt works. The difficulty is that we are already surplus in salt. The total requirement in the country is about 7 crores maunds. As against this, we are producing 5 crores maunds at present. Unless the chemical industries, such as the soda ash industry which requires salt as raw material, develop further or there is possibility of exporting salt to other countries, it will not be in the interest of salt industry itself to increase production. The problem so far as salt is concerned, is to improve the quality rather than to expand the quantity. The quantity can be expanded only for export or for industrial consumption.

[Shri Feroze Gandhi (Pratapgarh Dist.)—West cum Rae Bareli Dist.]

No; that is not correct because it comes under the Essential Supplies Act. The Government of India must be consulted.

[Shri Mohiuddin (Hyderabad City)]

May I ask a question? The hon. Deputy Minister said that a certain number of pumps are pumping out the water at Neivilu in the lignite mine at the rate of 15,000 gallons per minute. May I know what is the recuperative capacity of the mine, i.e., how much water comes back again after pumping out water at 15,000 gallons per minute?

[Shri Satish Chandra: The hon. Member is under some misapprehension. No water can get into it because there is no mine as such.

Shri Mohiuddin: From the original source of the water, not from the water that is pumped out.

Shri Satish Chandra: There are artesian aquifiers below the lignite bed which is itself about 250 or 300 feet below the surface. The problem is to lower the pressure in these artesian aquifiers below the lignite bed so that when
actual mining is done, the bed does not burst by pressure of water which will flood the mines. Certain calculations have been made by technical experts. It is too complicated a matter for me and I shall not elaborate on it. They feel that if water can be pumped out at a certain rate it will be possible to decrease the pressure to such an extent that mining can be done safely. It is this problem which is being investigated at present. The economics of mining lignite and its cost of production can only be worked out when we know how much pumping of water will be necessary to make safe mining possible.

Mr. Speaker: I now put all the cut motions relating to these Demands to the vote of the House.

All the cut motions were negatived.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

“That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts shown in the fourth column of the Order Paper, be granted to the President to complete the sums necessary to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1957, in respect of the following heads of demands entered in the second column thereof:

Demands Nos. 87, 88, 90, 91 and 138”.

The motion was adopted.

Demand No. 87—Ministry of Production

“That a sum not exceeding Rs. 24,52,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1957, in respect of ‘Ministry of Production’.”

Demand No. 88—Salt

“That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,31,22,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1957, in respect of ‘Salt’.”

Demand No. 89—Other Organisations under the Ministry of Production

“That a sum not exceeding Rs. 7,14,71,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1957, in respect of ‘Other Organisations under the Ministry of Production’.”

Demand No. 90—Government Collieries

“That a sum not exceeding Rs. 3,83,41,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1957, in respect of ‘Government Collieries’.”

Demand No. 91—Miscellaneous Departments and Expenditure under the Ministry of Production

“That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,05,49,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1957, in respect of ‘Miscellaneous Departments and Expenditure under the Ministry of Production’.”

Demand No. 138—Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Production

“That a sum not exceeding Rs. 16,29,56,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1957, in respect of ‘Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Production’.”

Mr. Speaker: The House will now take up discussion of the Demands for Grants Nos. 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, and 137 relating to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Scientific Research. As the House is aware, 3 hours have been allotted for the Demands of this Ministry.

There are a number of cut motions to these various Demands. Hon. Members may hand over the numbers of the selected cut motions which they propose to move at the Table, within 15
minutes. I shall treat them as moved, if the members in whose names those cut motions stand are present in the House and the motions are otherwise in order.

The time-limit for speeches will, as usual, be 15 minutes for the members including movers of cut motions, and 20 minutes if necessary, for Leaders of Groups.

**Demand No. 78—Ministry of Natural Resources and Scientific Research**

Mr. Speaker: Motion moved:

“That a sum not exceeding Rs. 11,41,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1957 in respect of ‘Ministry of Natural Resources and Scientific Research’.”

**Demand No. 79—Survey of India**

Mr. Speaker: Motion moved:

“That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,47,25,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1957, in respect of ‘Survey of India’.”

**Demand No. 80—Botanical Survey**

Mr. Speaker: Motion moved:

“That a sum not exceeding Rs. 8,70,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1957, in respect of ‘Botanical Survey’.”

**Demand No. 81—Zoological Survey**

Mr. Speaker: Motion moved:

“That a sum not exceeding Rs. 10,24,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1957, in respect of ‘Zoological Survey’.”

**Demand No. 82—Geological Survey**

Mr. Speaker: Motion moved:

“That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,43,89,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1957, in respect of ‘Geological Survey’.”

**Demand No. 83—Mines**

Mr. Speaker: Motion moved:

“That a sum not exceeding Rs. 49,05,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1957, in respect of ‘Mines’.”

**Demand No. 84—Scientific Research**

Mr. Speaker: Motion moved:

“That a sum not exceeding Rs. 3,08,45,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1957, in respect of ‘Scientific Research’.”

**Demand No. 85—Exploration of Oil and Natural Gas**

Mr. Speaker: Motion moved:

“That a sum not exceeding Rs. 53,93,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1957, in respect of ‘Exploration of Oil and Natural Gas’.”

**Demand No. 86—Miscellaneous Expenditure under the Ministry of Natural Resources and Scientific Research**

Mr. Speaker: Motion moved:

“That a sum not exceeding Rs. 21,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day
of March, 1957, in respect of 'Miscellaneous Expenditure under the Ministry of Natural Resources and Scientific Research'."

DEMAND NO. 137—CAPITAL OUTLAY
OF THE MINISTRY OF NATURAL
RESOURCES AND SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH

Mr. Speaker: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 3,86,67,000 be granted to the
President to complete the sum
necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of pay-
ment during the year ending the
31st day of March, 1957, in respect of 'Capital Outlay of the
Ministry of Natural Resources and Scientific Research'."

Has the hon. Minister to say any-
thing?

The Minister of Natural Resources
(Shri K. D. Malaviya): May I suggest
with your permission that the entire
time for the Demands may be utilised
today and the debate may continue till
3.30.

Shri Feroze Gandhi: Private Mem-
bers' Bills is at 3 o'clock.

Mr. Speaker: I know. The hon. Mi-

nister is aware of that, therefore he
makes that representation. Therefore,
we will have to sit 25 minutes more or,
say, half an hour more, till 6 o'clock.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty (Bais-
barat): I would beg of you not to admit
this request of the hon. Minister for
increasing the hours of sitting because we
have been finding great difficulty in
keeping the quorum in the House after
half past five. So, I would request the
hon. Minister should hold over his re-
ply or shorten his reply and make it
within the time available.

Shri K. D. Malaviya: I am prepared
to accept the suggestion. I only meant
there should be no discontinuity in the
debate. Otherwise, two holidays are
intervening in between and the reply
that I will be giving on Monday. It
may perhaps lose some of its reality.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: Let the
Minister reply on the next day.

Shri Kamath: He will come with a
fresh mind on Monday.

Shri V. P. Nayar (Chirayinkil): There
is no time-bar for the Minister's reply.

Mr. Speaker: The main objection
seems to be lack of quorum. If the hon.
Parliamentary Minister assures me of
quorum, then what?

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: He is
not guaranteeing.

Mr. Speaker: I leave it to him.

Shri V. P. Nayar: He is shirking his
responsibility.

The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs
(Shri Satya Narayan Sinha): If the
House decides to sit till six o'clock I
will try my best to keep the quorum.

Mr. Speaker: Each is dependant on
the other. If the quorum is ready, the
House will sit. If the House is ready, the
quorum will be there.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: One
small point. If we extend the time till
half past three, after that is the Private
Members' Bill and Government is not
interested in keeping the quorum.

Mr. Speaker: I think nobody raises
objection regarding quorum during Pri-
ivate Members' Bills.

Shri Satya Narayan Sinha: Not
even Shri Kamath.

Shri Feroze Gandhi: Everything:
should not be done to suit the Minister.

Mr. Speaker: Apart from the ques-
tion of suitting the Minister, the break
is not even one day. Two days inter-
vene, on the third day he will reply.
I leave it to the House.

Shri Kamath: Yesterday there were
hardly 12 Members at 5.30.

Mr. Speaker: Therefore, the hon.
Minister will reply the next day. Does
the hon. Minister start, or who starts?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: I will require
40 minutes.

Shri T. S. A. Chettiar (Tiruppur): I
consider this Demand as a very im-
portant one for the future of the coun-
try. I have examined the various items
under these Demands and I find that the
biggest item is Rs. 2,25,00,000 budget
estimates for 1956-57 in the way of
grants to C.S.I.R.

Dr. Krishnaswami (Kancheepuram):
There is so much noise we cannot hear.
Mr. Speaker: Order, order, I find the front bench gentlemen make more noise than the rear bench gentlemen. If nobody takes interest in it, the hon. Members might kindly go to the lobby and then I will once for all decide there is no quorum in the House. What is the good of sitting here and making noise? Hon. Members are very great men, each one representing his constituency. I know in what great esteem they are held in their own constituencies.

Shri T. S. A. Chettiar: The biggest item of expenditure is Rs. 225 lakhs which is provided for grants to the C.S.I.R. The next is for the Geological Survey of nearly Rs. 157 lakhs, and the other for the survey of India of Rs. 161 lakhs. I have no doubt that many of these research laboratories, including the most famous ones like the National Physical Laboratory and others, are doing very useful work. Lots of money have been spent on them, but I would like to know when these institutions are run, whether it is not necessary for us to have an evaluation report on the working of these institutions so that we may know whether what is expected of them is being done. It is one thing to take it for granted that simply because we invest crores of rupees in these institutions and highly placed officials and scientists are placed there, things may be well done. It is another matter to examine whether they are being worked out with the ideas and ideals which we have in view and whether we are having a proper return for the money that is being spent on these institutions. I have no doubt that when examined many of these institutions will prove to be a good investment. I have also no doubt that things can be improved by evolutions and examinations. I would like to get a few international scientists who know these jobs and put the along with some of our own scientists and form a team which should evaluate the work of these institutions, and I am sure that with the guidance which an expert body like this can give, we will have a lot to improve in the future and we will have a better return for the huge sums of money that we are spending.

Now, I come to another matter. A sum of Rs. 32 lakhs is being provided for expenditure on various bodies to give grants-in-aid and donations to scientific societies and institutes about Rs. 57 lakhs have been provided. I am anxious that this work should be done in close consultation with the universities. You know that the universities are bodies which are primarily intended to do research in science and in various other spheres of knowledge. There is another body, namely the University Grants Commission, to which we have provided nearly Rs. 36 crores in the next Five Year Plan for helping the universities. Unless we co-ordinate the work of the universities with that of this Ministry, I think we will be doing work which will be overlapping. If there is co-ordination, then we shall be able to turn out much better work.

We find that the Ministry of Education as well as the Ministry of Natural Resources and Scientific Research are supposed to be controlled by a single Minister, with two more Ministers under him to be in charge of the two Ministries respectively. But what I find is that even between these two Ministries under the control of the same Minister, there is not much of co-ordination. I would like to suggest that a report should be placed before the House, especially in the matter of scientific research, showing what amount of co-ordination there is between the universities which are doing research and these very highly placed bodies which are also doing similar work. These are matters which we must take into consideration if in this poor country of ours, we are to get sixteen annas' value for every rupee that we spend.

Now, I come to the next important point regarding the results of research. It is not enough if we do research; it is not enough if we merely do some work in the laboratories. What is necessary is that the results of the research must be broadcast, so that the people who are concerned in these various matters may know them.

I know that the Ministry have indicated at page 33 of their report the various steps taken by them to broadcast the results of research. They are also publishing articles in the various newspapers, with a view to disseminate scientific and technical information. They are publishing articles in magazines. They are publishing science news letters in the Sunday news of newspaper. Further, the Geological Survey of India publish memoirs, and so on.
But I would like to know whether any of these publication is being brought out in the regional languages. I find that a magazine is being run in Hindi. But let me tell you, and you know it very well, that this country consists of vast areas in which Hindi does not reach, in which Hindi is not known, and in which Hindi is not spoken. If we are to spread these ideas, then it is necessary that we must reach not only the English-speaking people, but also the areas where the regional languages are spoken, areas in which Hindi is not known, and in which English is also not very much known. In the future set-up of our country, in the very near future, that is, in a period of about five to ten years, the medium of instructions in the universities may also become the regional language. That will mean that the research also may be done in the regional languages. So, it is time that the Government of India think in terms of English certainly, because the expression of the highest scientific research is possible today only in English. But an attempt should at the same time be made to publish them not only in Hindi but in other regional languages as well. That is an important question which will have to be taken up.

So far as research is concerned, it is of two kinds, namely, fundamental research and applied research. Fundamental research is mostly done in the universities and the research institutes. But applied research is done in the various factories. Many of these factories are spread throughout the country. Applied research is also done in many of the institutes under the auspices of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research. I would like to know whether there is any co-ordination between the research done in these factories and in these big workshops and also the research done in our own big institutes. I say that this co-ordination is absolutely essential for profiting from one another's work. That is absolutely necessary, especially in a country like ours which is rather poor, and where we are unable to find as much money as possible for this purpose.

This leads me on to the Vigyan Mandirs in which I am deeply interested. The Minister is a great enthusiast in the matter of these Vigyan Mandirs. In fact, if I am correct, I may say that they are his brain-waves. I welcome the proposal to have Vigyan Mandirs, and I do so for more reasons than one, in fact, for the very objectives that they have in view. I shall have occasion later on to say how things have been done in these Vigyan Mandirs and how much of staff have been trained, and how far they have been equipped. There is a very ambitious programme before these Vigyan Mandirs. They are to be equipped for the following, namely soil and water analysis, plant pathology, pathological examination of any human diseases and deficiencies, rural health and sanitation education, identification of pests and insects, reading: room, literature, material etc., spread of scientific education and so on, and they are also to serve as applied science laboratories for high schools.

To my mind, this appears as a very ambitious programme. There is no course in any single university, which equips people to do all this work together. There are universities which provide courses in different subjects. Only if we could put all of them together can we get a well-trained man necessary for these Vigyan Mandirs. I would like to know what attempts have been made to train the technical personnel required.

In the report of the Ministry, we are told that certain Vigyan Mandirs have been started. One of them has been started in a place called Kallupatti in Tamil Nad. I dare say that the Minister would have come across an article written by Shri Kumarappa on this particular Vigyan Mandir at Kallupatti. I do not know who is responsible for having started it and for having left if in its present position. The Chief Minister of Madras was asked to open that Vigyan Mandir. When he opened it, there was a lot of scientific equipment there. But after he opened it and went away, most of the equipment disappeared. The reason for that was that these had been borrowed from a neighbouring college and therefore they had been returned back to them after the opening of the Vigyan Mandir. The people who opened it were not ready to open that Vigyan Mandir.

So, this is an example of how a good idea is back-levered. It is an excellent idea. I welcome it. But we cannot afford to work an excellent idea badly. An excellent idea must have its foundation; it must have trained personnel, and it must have equipment.
[Shri T. S. A. Chettiar]

Only when all these are provided an excellent idea can become excellent in practice. When the personnel and equipment are lacking, even excellent ideas may suffer, and they be pooh-poohed and discredited.

At a time when we are having economic expansion in various departments, in science, in education and also in the very highly technical work of this Ministry, what we want is men; apart from money, what we want is trained personnel. I would like to know what arrangements are being made to create the trained personnel. We have a number of persons studying in the colleges, and lakhs of persons are going in for unemployment because we have not trained them for any particular job that we require.

In the case of mining, for example, under the Second Five Year Plan, our coal production which now stands at 37 million tons is to be stepped up to 60 million tons, that is to say, nearly double the present production. In this, there is the public sector as well as the private sector. For both, the personnel required is the same. For coal mining alone, it has been estimated that we would require 1,660 graduate mining engineers and about 8,000 to 10,000 subordinate staff during the Second Five Year Plan period.

At present, there are only two institutions, I understand, to train graduate mining engineers, namely the Banaras Hindu University and the Indian School of Mines. The Indian Institute of Technology is planning to open a mining course. At present, the annual output of mining engineers is only 70 to 80. I hope the Minister will give us figures as to how many more persons have been trained, and how much more funds have been provided.

Planning is good; planning is helpful; planning will be fruitful. But if it is to be fruitful, first things must come first. Mere money does not do things. We want men with knowledge, with strength, with integrity, with character and with a persistence which scientists alone possess. Leadership in very profession for that matter needs such men who are trained. And we are yet to know what arrangements are being made to train them. Planning can come to fruition, only when the trained men appear.

This is of the utmost importance not only in the case of mining, but in the case of many other schemes as well. Trained personnel are necessary everywhere. I hope the Government of India will be able to place before this House the arrangements that they are making to train the personnel.

It may be that some changes may have to be made in the university courses; it may be that some little training may have to be given to the graduates who are going through the university courses. But that subject has to be taken up with the universities and with the existing institutions, and wherever possible, something has to be done to achieve the end in view.

In the matter of training, I would insist on one other thing. There is at present a School of Mines in Dhanbad. It is not necessary that for training men in mining, we must have a mine near the school. I understand that there is a proposal to have an institute at Dhanbad for mining, involving an expenditure of a few crores of rupees.

I would like to impress upon this House and the Government that this training should be provided on a regional basis throughout India, so that not only the people of a particular locality will get the advantage of this training but people all over India will get this training. This is also a very important matter. If this is attended to, we will not have difficulties in finding personnel for the various areas when we need trained personnel in those areas.

I would not like to take much more of your time, but I would like to say this. This Ministry is of fundamental importance to the progress of this country. Many of the institutions that have been started, many of the National Laboratories have, I have heard been started in a hurry, sometimes in without proper men. I would like the Government to ensure that in a country like India, where our resources are not large, from every pie that is used we get the best. I hope that the Government will in future reports provide us with an evaluation report about the various institutions in which large amounts of money are being spent.

Shri V. P. Nayar: I agree with Shri T. S. A. Chettiar that the subjects covered by this Ministry are very important. I would like the Government and also the House to pay more attention to the subjects under this Ministry, as I find
from the report that subjects which are of fundamental importance to the development of the economy of our country have been assigned to this Ministry. For example, there are mines and minerals, scientific surveys such as geological surveys, botanical surveys, zoological surveys, land survey etc., scientific research, both fundamental and applied, and also industrial research.

As you know, these are some of the basic requirements. Certain surveys, which we have necessarily to have, have not been made so far. I shall come to each of these subjects and try to briefly discuss it. But I want to say that the Government of India, although is spending three or four crores of rupees, has not done proper justice in the matter of the very important subjects which have come under this Ministry. Any amount spent on these surveys of mapping but the whole of India would not have been in excess of the demand.

Coming to the Survey of India, I find that there exists even today an inter-ministerial conflict. As I understand it, a survey of India should necessarily include a survey of the seas which surround the land of India. But unfortunately, the Survey of India today confines its activities only to the Indian land. You know how very important a marine survey will be for the purpose of defence. This question was posed when Dr. Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar was examined by the Public Accounts Committee, on which I have had the honour to serve. Dr. Bhatnager revealed in the course of evidence that it was impossible to get the Food Ministry agree to the proposition that a marine survey should be undertaken by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Scientific Research. I am quoting from his evidence:

"I am quite certain that as intelligence grows, this subject (that is, marine survey) will be put together."

Later on, he said in that meeting that although he made an effort to formulate a scheme for a complete marine survey including an oceanographic study and the establishment of a Central Oceanographic Institute—at a point of time when the UNESCO also promised some financial aid—the Food Ministry once agreed to its being handled by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Scientific Research, but later on, when it came to the stage of finalisation, said that it had to change its decision and that it shall run the Institute. As far as I understand, such an Institute has not come into being so far.

This is not merely important for the purpose of defence. Apart from the requirements of defence we have got in-exhaustible resources; around the coast of India, the sea has inexhaustible resources. Unfortunately, although several years have passed after independence, we have not had a complete survey made of our seas. Every inch of the surface and every fathom of the sea has to be surveyed. Land survey alone will not give any immediate benefit. I want, therefore, that the Survey of India should take it up. I am not interested which Ministry handles it. But I feel that under the present set-up, the Survey of India under the Ministry of Natural Resources and Scientific Research should take it up. The Ministry of Defence is, of course, there and it has the advantage of having some vessels and some instruments which they can place at the disposal of the Survey of India. But the survey should be undertaken immediately.

Then, the Survey of India has many aspects which I do not have time to go into. Even the single Union of workers in the Survey of India, the Karmachari Union, has not been recognised. I saw the other day a petition submitted to the hon. Minister where they were asking for certain very legitimate demands being conceded. For example, there was the question of medical facilities. I want the Minister to sympathetically consider their case also.

I want to say something about the Geological Survey also. As you know, I have been putting some question on this. I am very sorry that my country does not have a geological map so far, and I am very sorry that we do not have the required personnel for conducting a geological survey. It is no good saying that the Dhanbad Institute will be enlarged shortly. It is not as if we want geologists in their hundreds and thousands who will distinguish, by seeing the earth, whether it belonged to a particular age or to the cretaceous period or this period or that period. But I want my country to have several thousands of geologists who will go and
find out the important minerals to start with. Do we have a programme? Do we have a central institute of geology where various persons from the various States, according to their requirements, can train field workers to find out the minerals. I would command to the Minister the setting up of an institute like this where persons can be trained, may be on a year's course. Several of the Indian Universities today do not have a course in geology. The Prime Minister told the House last year or the year before that in China he saw several thousand geologists like that. We want such a thing in our country also.

**Shri U. M. Trivedi (Chittor):** What is it in China?

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** Let him find out for himself.

It reminds me of an incident the other day. When I was going around a part of Travancore-Cochin outside my constituency, I found that there were monazite-bearing sands. Immediately I got interested in it and took some sand and sent it to the Indian Bureau of Mines, where they analysed it and found that that particular deposit of sand had a monozite content which was not seen anywhere else even in Travancore-Cochin. But what did the Indian Bureau of Mines do? They asked me, of all persons, to produce 100 lbs. for a detailed verification. If the hon. Minister can place one or two of his staff with me, I can produce one or two tons. But this is the attitude. How can we go about and ask people to find out whether there are valuable minerals in this place or that place? I am very sorry to say that some of the accounts of geological formations of India have to be relied upon on the reports made by Dr. King in the last century or by Capt. Newbolt several decades back. Even today, the reports are incomplete. I can understand if it is incomplete in ordinary known minerals. But here is a classic example of what Government has been doing—or has not been doing.

In the *Geological Survey of India* by Dr. M. S. Krishnan, there is a passage where I find that Malabar has 500 square miles of gold-bearing pyrites. He says that the details have still to be investigated. I will just read one sentence:

“...Crookshank states that the numerous small but rich reefs near Devala and Pandalur in Wynad require further systematic investigation and are likely to be of importance...”

Even in the matter of gold the surveys have not been completed. As I told you the other day, here, the proposition is not the content of gold alone but along with that gold occurs another rare mineral that is the base for sulphur. We are importing a good lot of sulphur. Fortunately, here, we find gold in combination with pyrites and no systematic survey has been done.

I would also give another example. You come from the south and you know that in the south there is the problem of fuel. We do not have that much of coal which the Bengal-Bihar collieries have. Unfortunately, it is not possible to transport coal on account of a variety of reasons. What have they done? The Neivel project is there undoubtedly. It may turn out to be a good project. Here again, there is a report that in Varkalai there is a formation of more than 500 sq. miles of lignite. The analysis of the lignite has shown that the heat coefficient is good; its moisture is certainly within workable rate and what is more—when I was searching some records in the library of the Indian Bureau of Mines—there I found a report that this particular variety of lignite which was workable had also a definite percentage of workable extracts of a very rare commodity vanadium oxide. I was surprised to find that my constituency had not only 400,000 tons of lignite at one place alone that is suitable for extraction, but a variety the ash content of which is perhaps the least. What do we do with that?

**Shri K. D. Malaviya:** Your constituency might have all that.

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** I have put several questions... .

**Shri Matthen (Thiruvellah):** I know it is correct.

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** I did not hear the third Minister there.

The Geological survey is good and it has some reports. But, I want the Minister to consider how long are we to wait for the exploitation of these minerals simply because of the fact that a detailed survey has not been made. In
the case of lignite, graphite, and in the case of all other metals, gold pyrites, everything, not only in Travanccore-Cochin alone.

An Hon. Member: It is Greek and Latin to them.

Shri V. P. Nayar: Even for the known minerals, a detailed survey has not been completed, although we are having the geological survey and we have yearly reports being published and although we claim to have some of the international figures in geology. I want the geological survey to be of practical help to us. That is why I have suggested that a Central Institute of Geology where hundreds and thousands of people will be trained to go out into the country and find out the minerals, as a first prerequisite. Government has not thought about it.

Let us look at the botanical survey. These are questions which are not very often discussed in this House and that is why I am referring to them. What about botanical survey? Is it so very difficult to have a botanical survey? Have we to import specialists? Certainly not. Most of the States have botanical surveys. The only question is to make them up-to-date. In Travanccore-Cochin, for example, there is a State Manual where there is an account of the Tarvanccore flora. Today I cannot get a handbook anywhere which will give a complete account of the flora of India. I am very much interested in finding out the value of a number of plants. What does the botanical survey say? It has not so far made a complete study of the medicinal plants of India. The common plant Rauhia serpantina was exported in thousands of tons out of which some medicines came back to India. Very costly medicines were made out of it. I do not want to say much about the Rauhia serpantina. What about ordinary strychnine? It is a classic example of the neglect of this Ministry on certain fundamental subjects which we can tackle with the limited resources which we have. Strychnine has variable uses. Almost every preparation of strychnine is extracted from the strychno-nux-vomica seeds and they are sent back to us at fantastc prices. There are ever so many herbs known for their diuritic, anti-pyretic, anti-helminthic properties. What has the botanical survey done to us? Botanical survey must necessarily have certain importance to the lives of the people. Here, we are exporting all these crude drugs and importing the manufactured drugs. Has the Ministry any programme to separte the alkaloids? Have we any programme to extract the active principles? This is a question which deserves immediate tackling. I do not find that the botanical survey has a complete reference to the flora of India. There is no reference of the kind which we desire to have, especially in the matter of plants which are of medicinal importance, which are of economic importance. I think the Ministry should seriously consider this suggestion which I give.

Then, about, the zoological survey. We have no complete reference or account of the Indian fauna. It is not merely interesting theoretically but it is of some practical interest also. I would suggest that in the matter of the zoological survey the survey should be made to bring out some volumes containing a complete account of the animal life of India from the protozoa to the mammals on the lines which were indicated, for example, in the Cambridge Natural History Series. I am conscious of the fact that we do not have a number of zoologists who can go out and find out and identify specimens. The Ministry claims that 428 specimens have been recorded. I do not know what is there. I can do it in the laboratory all by myself if I have some books for consultation: it is so easy and that is trotted out as a tribute to the zoological section. Certainly they have done good work. I know that. Gentlemen like Sunderal Vohra have done pioneer work. What is the net result which we have? We have not got an account of the fauna of India which we must have. I would like to have one complete account as I suggested spending any amount; it is immaterial what we have to spend. There is no programme like this.

Shri K. D. Malaviya: In 25 years it will be done.

Shri V. P. Nayar: It will not take 25 years: it is a matter of opinion. I happen to know some little zoology and that is why I say it will not take 25 years. If we have the will to do it, it will be done within 5 years. Most of the States have got some accounts of the flora and fauna. Everything has been covered and the only question is revising them and bringing them up to date. It will not take 25 years. Even if it takes 25 years, why not we make a beginning?
Shri K. D. Malaviya: We have done that.

Shri V. P. Nayar: Sir, I have a lot to speak in such a short space of time.

Mr. Speaker: I will give the hon. Member 5 more minutes.

Shri V. P. Nayar: I would like to put one point to the hon. Minister. There is the National Research Corporation. What are its activities? The report does not indicate anything. I know that the advantages or the results of the research work are given over to some industrialists for exploitation. Are the Government getting any royalty on that? If so, what is the royalty? Who are the people who use them? There must be a lot of research also done by the industrialists. May be it is for applied purposes and not fundamental.

There are several other subjects which require a complete research. The case of lemon grass oil is an instance in point. We know that lemon grass is sent out of India, worth Rs. 2 or 3 crores every year; they make ionone and citrol for rich profits. What is being done? Have we evolved any simple process by which these can be extracted? Have we got a single factory where all these essential oils can be manufactured? There is the sandalwood oil; there are ever so many volatile oils which can be manufactured. These are the points which I want the Minister to consider.

There is one more point, and that is about oil prospecting. I do not want to discuss it in detail. We know that India today is almost completely dependent on foreign giants for the requirements of oil, especially the motor oils and aviation spirit and everything. I understand from a usually reliable source that the Standard Vacuum Oil Company's agreement with the Government of India has been fixed for a period of 50 years. I want the hon. Minister to contradict me if he can. I shall be very glad to be corrected; but look at this position. Oil is so vital not merely for the purpose of defence, but also for developing our economy. The whole transport system, apart from the Railways, has to depend upon oil. Here the foreign giants have got a monopoly, which they are not willing to give up. The industrial interests of our country will not be served by agreement with a foreign giant for fifty years. If what I understand is correct, the Minister ought to hang his head in shame because it is ruining the interest of our country.

1 P.M.

The other day I remember the Prime Minister told the House that he would place a copy of the agreement on the Table of the House. I wonder whether it has been placed at all.

Some Hon. Members: No.

Shri V. P. Nayar: Personally, I have nothing against the hon. Minister. He has still the warmth of my affection, but he must know what is happening in his Ministry.

I understand from a very reliable source—which I do not wish to disclose—that this agreement has been signed. Why should you sign an agreement of all companies with the Standard Oil Company, and in matter of all matters like oil, for fifty years? I want a categorical answer to this when the hon. Minister gives his reply.

Mr. Speaker: Can an oil agreement be entered into with a coal company? An oil agreement has to be entered into only with an oil company. Whether it should be for fifty years or otherwise is the question.

Shri V. P. Nayar: The question is whether we should all enter into an agreement with the Standard Vacuum Oil Company, whose interests in India we know and whose monopoly in the world we know. But that is a different matter. The point to which I want a definite answer is whether this agreement is—as we hear from very reliable sources—for a period of fifty years. If it is so, then it is very serious; it is very detrimental to the interest of the country.

Shri K. D. Malaviya: The simple fact is that this is not correct.

Mr. Speaker: What is the period?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: Fifty is not correct.

Shri V. P. Nayar: It is not a process of elimination that it is not fifty, nor is it sixty.
Shri K. D. Malaviya: I only wish to mention that the question of production of crude oil by the Standard Vacuum Oil Company has not yet fully arisen. They are still in the prospecting stage. If and when oil will be produced in the area where prospecting is going on and on which they are spending crores of rupees, the question will then arise for how many years oil will be produced. There has been some preliminary understanding arrived at between us and the Standard Vacuum Oil by which we are bound. But it is not fifty years; it is not sixty years; it is much less.

Therefore, my hon. friend Mr. Nayyar should not raise that question. We are at the moment engaged in locating the oil which may be found in the bowels of Bengal Basin. Once we find the oil we will know what to do about it.

Shri V. P. Nayyar: It is not by the Standard Vacuum Oil Company alone that oil can be found in India.

Shri K. D. Malaviya: I know more about oils; I shall give the hon. Member some very interesting information.

Shri V. P. Nayyar: I do not want to take any more time of the House. I know the personal interest of the hon. Minister. I happened to have occasions to have some discussions with him. He is very much interested in several subjects, but I cannot understand why he should preside over a conference of zoologists or botanist. I want him to have a realistic view and also to see that some of the suggestions which I have put forward especially in the matter of a geological survey, a subject which is of fundamental importance to the country, are implemented, I hope that we shall have in the course of a few years at least the necessary technical personnel to have all these surveys done.

Shri Debeswar Sarmah (Golaghat-Jorhat): Mr. Speaker, I was attentively listening to the well-thought-out speech of Shri Nayyar. I would like to say that I agree with most of his suggestions. Shorn of the bitterness—I mean bitterness—in the nature of the complaints—his suggestions are very welcome. But when he says that this has not been done, that has not been done, I would like to tell him that others could very easily and to the list of things not done. In reply to him, I could only quote what the American labour leader, Mr. Reuther, said yesterday: "You have a tremendous task before you; you have to achieve things which have been omitted to be done during the last one hundred years." If during the last one hundred years many things were left undone, can we blame the infant Ministry created the other day for not achieving the whole range of things. I would request my hon. friend Shri Nayyar and others in the House to agree with me when I pay a compliment to the hon. Minister for Natural Resources and Scientific Research for having done his best with all the handicaps before him. These handicaps are not easily surmountable, the handicap of paucity of funds, the handicap of dearth of technical know-how. These two are almost insurmountable difficulties. I would say that the hon. Minister, Shri Malaviya is not less patriotic than my hon. friend Shri V. P. Nayyar.

Shri V. P. Nayyar: Nor did I say that.

Shri Debeswar Sarmah: Therefore, if he is driven in a bargain to yield as much as he had to, it must be considered that he could not do better.

Shri V. P. Nayyar: That was decided before he came into office.

Shri Debeswar Sarmah: I appreciate the hon. Member's list of things not done, and I could very easily add to the list given by him. The only point I seek to make is that all these could not be done overnight. As was pointed out by the American labour leader, a dispassionate observer, for a hundred years nothing had been done, and you cannot expect every thing to be done in the course of a couple of years.

I could not understand one thing which my hon. friend Shri Chettiar said—if I understood him aright—that the Indian School of Mines at Dhanbad should be spread out.

Shri T. S. A. Chettiar: What I said about the Indian School of Mines is that training in mining can be given in various Universities—that is what I said.

Shri Debeswar Sarmah: I would like to suggest that the Indian School of Mines at Dhanbad should be raised to a first-rate institution, so that it may attract students from all parts of Asia, as our Forest Research Institute at Dehra Dun is doing at present. India must be proud of these institutions.
[Shri Debeswar Sarmah]

In a discussion on the Ministry of Natural Resources and Scientific Research, the question of oil comes foremost to our minds, because the oil that is produced in India at present is only about 10 per cent. of our total requirements, and if we do not have imported oil, perhaps, we may have to cry a halt to most of our progress, including defence, before long. We have a feeling from what we hear in the lobbies and elsewhere that the Ministry is not getting adequate appreciation of its activities from quarters from which it should come. If what I heard is correct, the Ministry for the next Five Year Plan asked for at least Rs. 30 crores and now the Planning Commission has come forward to give them only round about Rs. 10 crores. For exploration of oil alone they will require about Rs. 28 crores or Rs. 30 crores for the next five years and at least Rs. 17.5 crores for the coming two years. Oil being important for all our developmental activities, it should have the highest priority in our expenditure. With the Rs. 10 crores, exploration for oil has to be done in Jaisalmer, Saurashtra and Jwalamukhi and they have also to depute trainees to Rumania, USSR and other countries. How can the Ministry carry on exploration of oil in these places where we are told that there is likelihood of finding oil in other places with such an inadequate amount? I submit that the Ministry should receive due recognition in appropriate quarters about its importance in various nation-building developmental schemes.

Coming to the question of oil, whatever oil is found in India is found in Assam at present, and we hope and pray to God that oil will also be found in other parts of the country.

Coming to Assam, I have to tell the same old pitiable tale. In the First Five Year Plan Assam was practically bypassed. In the Second Five Year Plan also, whether in the matter of industrialisation or of power development, practically nothing had been done and there is no scheme for Assam. While the overall national income for India is calculated to be between 25 and 28 per cent, for Assam the calculation does not come even to 18 per cent. And in the field of employment, it is even less. In the Delhi A.I.C.C. meeting resolution was adopted that the backward regions should receive due attention in the matter of industrial development with weightage. The same was the recommendation made in the States Reorganisation Commission Report also. But what do we find in practice at least in the case of Assam? Now we hear that the refinery contemplated for the new oil found in Naharkatiya and the neighbourhood is going to be installed outside of Assam. Is it fair to Assam? What are the arguments for the refinery at this Assam? The arguments are these and I will briefly narrate and meet them.

Some people say that it is too near Pakistan and so the refinery is not feasible in Assam. We have already one in Digboi and the other may be set up anywhere in Assam, whether in the north of Beoharaputra or in the south inside Assam. If it is established in the northern part, then of course oil may be brought to the refinery by pipe from the wells. What difference does it make between 50 and 100 miles at the present day when fighters and bombers have supersonic speeds? Does the argument carry any force that the refinery in Assam is not good or safe from the strategic standpoint. Will it be safe in Bihar, U.P. or Calcutta? I submit that that argument Assam no refinery. The Railways Gods say that they cannot come forward with commitments for Tank requirements for a refinery in Assam. I ask in all humility, how then are you going to develop this region of India? Are you going to leave this area undeveloped? Are you going to keep this area with guns? Is it only a question of law and order there? Are you not going to develop this part of India? If you say that in respect of oil tankers you cannot commit yourself, I submit that the refinery in Assam not going to be established there now within a short time; it will take at least two to three years and by then the Railways should be able to provide tanker wagons. There are wagon-ferry between Amingaon and Pandu. I submit that there are vast areas in North Eastern and Eastern India where metre gauge railways serve; these come right up to Delhi and up to Ahmedabad by the circuitous way. If refineries in Bombay and a prospective ont at Vizag feed the broad guage lines, let the refinery in Assam feed the metre gauge areas. That can be done.

Another argument advanced from another quarter is that Assam consumes only a small portion of the oil which will be produced by Naharkatiya. So
the Refinery should not be in Assam but in a central situation. Is it a serious argument? Does Bihar consumes all the iron produced in Jamshedpur or consume all the fertiliser produced at Sindri? I submit that such silly arguments may not find quarters with the Government.

Others say that we are in the examination position. It is only an academic question now as regards Naharkatiya oil. I submit that it is a dodge! We are a small State which has no big pull. They want to present a fait accompli before the State of Assam so that we may have no chance of talking about it. I submit that these things may not count for depriving Assam of the refinery for the oil that is found in Assam. After all, Assam has no other industry. If any subsidiary industries are to be built up there, these are to be built up around the refinery. This is the only chance for Assam in the foreseeable future.

The last point is about technical opinion and people find it very handy to use it for an excuse. They say, we do not know and it is only the technical personnel or the technicians who will be able to say where the refinery is to be set up. We are not asking as to whether oil will be found in Assam or how it may be transported over to the refinery site. I submit that this argument is in answer to technical questions. If oil is found in sufficient quantity—and we are told it has been found—and if a refinery is contemplated, where does the question of technical opinion come in? I fail to understand this. If there is a question of a bridge, the engineer will say whether the bridge can be built on a particular site. So also if it is a question of oil, the technician will say that oil may be or may not be found there. The same is the case with cement and the technician will say that this stone is good or that coal is useless. But when it is a question of a refinery being set up for oil which is already found where does the question of technical opinion come in? It is only a question of building a refinery for refining the oil which we have. Even during war-time, oil was pushed through pipes from Calcutta to Assam and right up to China via Burma. It may be said that there were guards over the pipelines and also engineers over there and it was an expensive affair. That point may be looked into. In peace-time there will be no necessity to amount guards over all these places, and particularly in the case of a small distance from Naharkatiya area right up to the other side of the Brahmaputra, say near about Bongaingaon or somewhere in the district of Dubri. It may be installed on this side of the Brahmaputra. So the plea of technical opinion is not a weighty one. I submit that the feeling over this refinery site is very strong in Assam. A resolution was passed on the 30th and 31st December 1955 by the Assam Provincial Congress Committee, which reads like this:

"The A.P.C.C. notes with concern the arguments lately being advanced in certain quarters that due to transport difficulties the new petrol refinery could not be established in Assam. A.P.C.C. considers that the refinery for Assam Oil should naturally be established in Assam, and requests the Government of India to conclude the decision that it be so established. As regards transport difficulties, the A.P.C.C. resolves to request the Government of India to take immediate steps to expand the requisite transport facilities and for that purpose make provision in the plan without delay."

In the Assam Political Conference in February last which was attended by our Minister of Labour as well as Shrimati Indira Gandhi, the following resolution was unanimously passed:

"The Assam Political Conference notes with concern and regret the arguments advanced in certain quarters that the Petrol refinery for Assam oil cannot be established in Assam because refinery must be constructed near a potential consumption centre of oil products as also because of transport difficulties. Such arguments are fallacious and untenable in view of the facts that the expected quantity of oil will cater for vast areas of India so that any location is bound to be far from other consumption centres. Secondly, development of transport facilities in Assam is inevitable if it has, according to the declared policy, to be brought to the standard and level of other advanced regions in India, wherefore the argument about lack of transport facilities also becomes inapplicable. The Conference, on the other hand, feels that development of transport in Assam should be
[Shri Debeswar Sarmah]
given attention immediately not only to solve the transport difficulties for taking oil from Assam, but also to help the people in this backward region to the standard of advanced areas in India. Further, as oil wells being one of the main resources around which industrial development of Assam is expected to take place, it will be depriving the people of Assam of their legitimate expectation of development and progress if its raw resources, such as crude oil, are transferred to other already developed and advanced regions of India."

Mr. Speaker: Is the hon. Member reading all the resolutions?

Shri Debeswar Sarmah: I have come to the end. It continues:

"This Conference requests the Government of India to conclude the decision for the establishment of refinery for Assam oil at a suitable place in Assam and to take immediate steps to expand the requisite transport facilities for this purpose."

Some four days back, the Legislative Assembly in Assam unanimously adopted a resolution requesting the Government of India to establish the refinery in Assam. In order that they—the people in that part of the country—may not have the feeling that they are being treated in the same way as the Britshers did in the old days, I request the refinery be established there. There are great resources in Assam, timber, coal and various other minerals but only a police raj was run there during British days—maintaining law and order and collecting tax. Tea, oil and coal belonged to them and they exploited these to their best advantage. The people of Assam should be made to feel that the conditions in India have changed and they also share the benefit and glow of freedom.

Shri Keshavalengar (Bangalore North): I am happy to participate in the debate on this most important Ministry. I am one of those who feel that all other Ministries have their eyes on this Ministry. (Interruptions.)

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member need not explain it to them.

Shri Keshavalengar: I am very happy that my learned colleague has been fortunate enough to have been placed in charge of this Ministry.

Our country has an overwhelming abundance of wealth and the Minister of Natural Resources who is in charge of it is the richest. Our country is rich but the people are very poor. How did it that happen? The reason is not far to seek. The advantages of scientific research have not been brought home to the poor people in our country. The standard of living of the people of our country and the development of our country entirely depend upon the way in which we work out our natural resources. I may even go to the extent of saying that it is the base of our country and if I may say so, the Minister in charge is the Field Marshal of that base and he has to conduct his operations in a very extensive, intensive and effective manner. Now, let us see how things are functioning in this Ministry.

Very recently, while I was returning from Helsinki a few months back, I happened to spend a few days in Denmark. I learnt there that our beloved Father of the Nation had written about 130 letters to a Danish lady. With her permission, I went through some of them and I found in one of them, written as far back as 3-6-1917, there are very important matters for us to note. The relevant passage of that letter reads as follows:

"This state of innocence is the one we must reach but only a few can reach it. It seems to be impossible for nations to reach it. Each progress is all is an inconceivable situation. Nations will, therefore, always fight. One of them will be less wrong than the other. A nation to be in the right can only fight with soul force. Such a nation has still to be born. I had hoped that India was that nation. I fear I was wrong. The utmost I expect of India is that she may become the greatest restraining force, but...." mark these words, he says, "she must acquire the ability to fight and suffer before she can speak to the world with any degree of effect."

How can we acquire this ability to fight and suffer until and unless the entire natural resources of our country are exploited to the full?

Mr. Speaker: Is all this quotation necessary? I may remind hon. Members that they have got a limited time to speak on so many subjects.
Shri Keshavvalangar: I will come to the performance of this Ministry.

From the report supplied to us, it is very gratifying to find that Government had been pleased to accept the recommendations of Professor Chatterjee and embark upon the scheme for a national atlas. We are very happy to note that all mapable information—economic development, physical features, etc.—will be embodied in these maps. I would in this connection submit that they should take into consideration the regional languages of our country and issue these maps in the regional languages also. Unless this is done, I doubt if it will serve us very much.

Next, I come to the Survey Department. There are different branches—zoological, botanical, geological, etc. On going through the report I find that only skeleton set-up has been established in all these branches or departments. They ceased to function during the last war. That position is not acceptable to us. The Ministry has come to be in charge of these departments several years ago and to tell us that the staff is insufficient and so it had ceased to function during the period of war is not very satisfactory. No stone must be left unturned by the Ministry to enlarge the activities and increase the establishment and make it function in an effective manner. We see that some of them have been in existence for over a century and a half or some sixty years but we cannot expect a foreign Government to function in a very satisfactory way in these matters. No excuse can be offered now for not enlarging the scope and the activities of these departments, and unless we work these effectively, there cannot be any salvation.

Lack of personnel cannot be pleaded as an excuse. I quite agree with Shri Chettiar when he said that there should be a very close co-ordination between the universities and other bodies. That is a very important feature. Till now, all our Colleges and educational institutions have been completely cut off from the progressive activities in the country.

It is very necessary and important that we should evolve a scheme to bring about close contact and co-ordination between our universities. Let us take the young men into our confidence and introduce many of these research items in the universities themselves. Give them grants, if necessary, or help them in some other manner and bring them in close contact with the efforts that are being made towards the progress of our country. There cannot be two opinions that if more institutions like the one in Dhanbad are started in the South of India, where also many mines exist, applications will be forthcoming in very large numbers. We need not rest content with the production of 75 or 90 students who will come out of this mining and applied geology school. If only good contact is established between the universities and our governmental set-up, I am sure, this difficulty with regard to personnel can very easily be solved.

I am very happy to find the progress made in the branch connected with the sanction of grants for scientific research institutes and societies. That is the way to enlist people's co-operation. I am one of those who feel anxious that this activity must be enlarged and more and more societies and research institutions must be taken into our fold.

Now I come to the other research Institutions. I have had occasion to visit a good number of these institutions—the Food Research Institute in Mysore, the Road Research Institute in Delhi, the Medical Research Institute in Patna, the Building Research Institute in Roorkee and so on. I am one of those who feel very anxious that these institutions, very valuable institutions, built with very great care, should not result in coming out as mere 'maintenance mandirs' of these scientists. I have known that several good results have been achieved by a number of these institutions. I am anxious to know as to what is the machinery that the Government has evolved to reach the people with the results in the several institutions. I am very anxious that the widest publicity must be given to the results of research done in the several institutions that we have got in the country so that the people may benefit from them.

While I am on this subject, I have to join my voice with my other friends who spoke about vigyan mandirs. I am very anxious that there should be a net-work of vigyan mandirs all over the country. This seems to be a very interesting and nice feature. I am sure it will serve its purpose eminently if only we take it to all corners of our
[Shri Keshavaengar]

The fulfilment of the Second Five Year Plan certainly strains to a very great extent the resources of the country including the man-power. We also see that to a very great extent in the important spheres of manganese and iron the private sector has played a very great and important part. When we are so short of personnel and resources, when we are unable to pick up skilled and experienced men—we cannot pick them up from the mango tree; but at the same time we have got to enlist this valuable material of skill and experience in conducting mining operations and co-ordinate with our effort for increasing the targets—I feel very strongly that the Government must come forward with an unequivocal and categorical declaration as regards the part that it permits the private sector to play in this adventure.
Demands for Grants : 6 April 1956

Mr. Deputy-Speaker in the Chair

This is the Chair, in the Chair.

The question of organisation of small producers into co-operatives by State Governments and helping them with credit facilities through the Reserve Bank if they needed this assistance, and ...

The setting up of customs mills for beneficiation of low grade ores, after the State Governments had collected the necessary data in regard to the reserves and quality of the low grade oree...

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For grants for the year April 1956 demands for grants, demands for grants.

Dharmapala mentions a grant for a loan to a small producer, after the State Governments had collected the necessary data in regard to the reserves and quality of the low grade ore. These small producers organized into co-operatives with the help of credit facilities through the Reserve Bank if they needed this assistance.

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The page is filled with text that is not legible due to the quality of the image. It appears to be a document discussing demands for grants and possibly related to military or government issues, given the context of "Demand for Grants 6 April 1956." The text is not transcribed due to the difficulty in reading it.
Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The following are the selected cut motions relating to various Demands under the Ministry of Natural Resources and Scientific Re-
Demand for Grants 6 April 1956

[Mr. Deputy-Speaker]

search which have been indicated by Members to be moved.

Demand No.  No. of Cut Motions
78  1025, 1035, 1036, 1037, 1038, 1039, 1040.
79  1026, 1041.
80  1043, 1044, 1045.
81  1046.
82  1047, 1048, 1049.
83  774, 983, 984, 1050.
84  985, 1051, 1052, 1053.

Increasing the staff for exploiting the natural resources of the country

Shri Sivamurthi Swamid: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Natural Resources and Scientific Research' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Policy pursued in the matter of exploitation of natural gas and coal

Shri V. P. Nayar: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Natural Resources and Scientific Research' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Working of the Ministry

Shri V. P. Nayar: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Natural Resources and Scientific Research' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Lack of proper investigation in the Warkala formations

Shri V. P. Nayar: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Natural Resources and Scientific Research' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Non-exploitation of Lignite in the Warkala region and Mica and Rare earths in Travancore-Cochin State

Shri V. P. Nayar: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Natural Resources and Scientific Research' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Failure to make public the Agreement regarding Stanvac Project for oil exploration in West Bengal

Shri N. B. Chowdhury: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Natural Resources and Scientific Research' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Payment of inadequate compensation to persons of Ramnagar area in Arambag Sub-division in district of Hooghly due to damage caused in course of seismic refraction survey by Stanvac Project

Shri N. B. Chowdhury: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Natural Resources and Scientific Research' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Increase of survey parties in the country

Shri Sivamurthi Swamid: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Survey of India' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Non-inclusion of marine survey

Shri V. P. Nayar: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Survey of India' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Incomplete character of the Botanical Survey now being done

Shri V. P. Nayar: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Botanical Survey' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Failure to have any adequate research in the matter of exploiting Indian herbs for medical preparations

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"That the demand under the head 'Botanical Survey' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Failure to prepare a comprehensive list of indigenous medical plants

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Incomplete nature of Zoological Survey.

Shri V. P. Nayar: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Zoological Survey' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Inadequacy of Geological Survey

Shri V. P. Nayar: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Geological Survey' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Lack of qualified surveyors for the purpose of a complete Geological Survey in India

Shri V. P. Nayar: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Geological Survey' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Inadequacy of Surveys for finding out important minerals

Shri V. P. Nayar: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Geological Survey' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need for nationalisation of all mines in the country

Shri Sivamurthi Swami: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Mines' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need to stop individuals or firms from obtaining leases of mines in different names of firms

Shri Deogam: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Mines' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Policy pursued in the matter of exploring and investigating gold mines in Malabar

Shri V. P. Nayar: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Mines' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need to establish Vigyan Mandirs in areas inhabited by aboriginals, as suggested by the Planning Commission

Shri Deogam: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Scientific Research' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Policy pursued in fostering research in various subjects

Shri V. P. Nayar: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Scientific Research' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Inadequacy in the matter of scientific research in purifying ores of metals

Shri V. P. Nayar: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Scientific Research' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Inadequacy of research in the matter of essential (Volatile) oils

Shri V. P. Nayar: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Scientific Research' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: All these cut-motions are before the House.

Failure to help the tribals in the commercial exploitation of the rich natural resources in their area as envisaged in the First Five Year Plan

Shri Deogam: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Mines' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: All these cut-motions are before the House.
The geologists of the Directorates carried out detailed investigations on the copper deposits near Pokhara in the Tibesti-Garhwal and found that the deposits contain rich copper contents. It is proposed to conduct deep drilling operations in the next field season beginning from April.

The demarcation of the area where the copper deposits are situated was carried out. The detailed investigations carried out in the field indicated that there are likely to be other copper deposits in the area. The demarcation was carried out in conjunction with the Directorates of the Geological Survey of India and the Department of Mines and Geology, Government of India.
Shri D. C. Sharma (Hoshangpur): In speaking on this Ministry's Demands. I have slightly a sense of pride, a sense of joy and also a sense of achievement. It is a Ministry of inadequately financial resources asked to deal with the immense natural resources of our country. It is a Ministry of inadequate financial resources asked to deal with the overall development of this Ministry very difficult. This makes the task with your permission. I would like to make a suggestion and that is that we...
[Shri D. C. Sharma]

should take a leaf out of the book of our neighbouring country, modern China. It is also a country which is not as highly developed as it should be. Without meaning any offence, I would say that it is an under-developed country, but the approach that the Chinese have made to this problem is very sensible.

They have centralised all kinds of scientific research in one place. Here I find that the map of India is dotted with places for scientific research, but those places are not correlated. Some research work is being done by one Ministry, some by another. It is a diversified pattern and, I should say, a heterogeneous pattern as also a wasteful pattern. I would, therefore, suggest that so far as research is concerned, whether it relates to agriculture, whether it relates to defence or it relates to any other thing, it should come within the purview of this Ministry. In China, engineering research, weather forecasting, river control, agriculture, medicine and health, social sciences all these are under one Ministry, and I do not see any reason why we should not follow that pattern.

I also beg to submit that the scientific landscape of our country is a very queer landscape. I see the National Laboratories of India. I am very proud of them and I must say that they are doing excellent work. Again, I see Universities. Every University has laboratories and every University is doing some kind of research. Then I must say in all fairness to my hon. friend, the Minister of Natural Resources, that he is going to have a network of vigyan mandirs. But I would say to him: Make a broad highway which leads from the National Laboratories to the Universities and from the Universities to the vigyan mandirs and from the vigyan mandirs to the common people.

Basic research is very good. Fundamental research is very fine, and I am very happy that we have produced some great scientists who have done some fundamental research. But I would say this research is not worth a penny if it is not translated into utility for the common man. I have here an article written in a periodical of China about the kind of research done there. They also have research, but they are doing research which is related to the needs of their country.

We are saying on the floor of the House that we do not have any steel. We are saying that the railways are suffering from lack of steel. Shri Alagesan is always wailing that we do not have enough steel. Surely, we do not have enough steel. But what are we going to do? In China, they are trying to have a low cost metal which can replace steel. Are we doing anything in that direction? Then again, we have the fuel industry. Our resources of coal are fast running short. Of course, we are now having our river valley projects and electricity output is going up, and we are also going to have atomic energy for peaceful purposes. But as my hon. friend Shri Nanda said, this atomic energy may be there available, but it is going to be very costly. I would therefore suggest that so far as this industry is concerned, we must make some good inexpensive substitutes. Are we doing anything in that direction? We are not doing anything. In China, they are having synthetic petroleum. They are trying to do that so that the problem of fuel should be solved.

Some time back a lot was said about the solar cooker. The sun is the source of all energy, the rivers are the source of energy and the mines are the source of energy. I would ask the Minister, who has a progressive outlook on these matters, to tell us what is being done to tap the energy of the sun. I know that in some other countries this kind of tapping is being done. But I do not know whether people are using solar cookers here.

Shri U. M. Trivedi: Has he seen them?

Shri D. C. Sharma: I will show them to him when he is in a mood to look at them.

But I say that our research should be related to the needs of our country. We want a substitute for these things. I was saying that in China they are doing weather forecasting so as to be of help to every farmer in the country.

Shri V. P. Nayar: Broadcast in English.

Shri D. C. Sharma: I am talking about China; I know he knows more about China than I do.
Take zoological survey. Let us see what the Chinese zoologists have done. They have produced a new breed of sheep which will interest many of us. It on an average, gives 45 per cent more meat and 6 times more wool than pure Kazak.

Shri Hem Raj was just now speaking about medicines, that the hills of Hoshiarpur and Kangra are full of herbs. Herbs mean wealth, these herbs mean health, they mean good life. But where are the persons who know these herbs so as to make use of them? The old persons who knew something about these herbs are disappearing from the scene, and we are not having anybody who knows these herbs, so that we can make use of them.

So I would say that the most important problem for us at this stage is to see that we should relate our research to the everyday needs of our country and everyday needs of our nation. While there should be some scientists to fly in the air, many of the scientists of India should keep their feet on the solid earth, and solve those problems which are here.

You will forgive me if I say a few words about my constituency to which a reference was made by my hon. friend Shri Hem Raj. I have the honour to represent the place in which he was born and bred and I would say that in that constituency you have minerals, herbs and you have almost everything. During the last war when I met some persons who had come over to India, they said: Why should India be poor? All the wealth of India lies buried under the ground. I am glad that some prospecting is being done but I will say that there should be an intensive prospecting of the Kangra district and of the Hoshiarpur district. I can assure the hon. Minister that if this is done, he will be rewarded much beyond his expectations and if he is rewarded, the people of that area will be rewarded and above all India will be rewarded. Jwalamukhi is going to give us oil. But there are other places also where you have limestone, manganese and gypsum and all those things and a very detailed and systematic survey of this area is needed now so that we can do something.

Shri Raghubir Sahal (Etah Distt.—North-East cum Budaun Distt.—East): Are you sure that the flame of the Jwalamukhi will not be extinguished?

Shri D. C. Sharma: The flame of life will never be extinguished and I am interested more in the flame of life than in any other kind of flame and I may tell you that as long as life is there the jwalamukhi flame will go up.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member should not succumb to this temptation, he has limited time at his disposal.

Shri D. C. Sharma: I have always succumbed to good temptations. I say that India should march towards self-sufficiency. It does not make me happy to see that our prospecting is being done by the Standard Vacuum Oil Company. I do not feel unhappy; but, I also do not feel happy. It does not make me happy to thing that this prospecting in Digboi is being done by the Assam Oil Company. I say while India is marching on the road to self-sufficiency in other sections, why should it not acquire self-sufficiency in this field also. The only way of doing that is this, that we must have education and training. Shri Hem Raj was quite right when he said that geology is a subject which is not very popular in India. In Dharma-sala we had a geological department, a small department but they did not want it. So, I say that such departments should be opened in the Universities and the scientific education of the country should be taken in hand especially in those subjects in which our former masters made no adequate provisions. Therefore, I would say that for self-sufficiency we require scientific education and we also require training.

In this report I was very unhappy to read that during the year 8 officers completed their training at the Officers' Training School. Again on page 18, it is said that 10 trainees from different universities were trained in taxidermy and museum technique. What are those 10 persons? We want an army of persons, not only in these fields but also in other fields. I would further say that we must have a very large network of scientific departments in this country and we should also have very ambitious schemes for the training of the personnel in this country. We should educate the people of India in scientific techniques all along the line. You do not need only Vigyan Mandirs. I welcome them. Of course, the prospect of these Vigyan Mandirs is very ambitious; I do not say that they should not be ambitious. I am glad that they are going to be linked with
The most deplorable thing is this: We have not yet arrived at a correct assessment of our scientific manpower. We do not know what scientific resources we have and even if we know that slightly, we are not making adequate use of that scientific manpower. I would, therefore, ask the hon. Minister to try to encourage the building up of associations of scientific knowledge. I would also ask him to encourage the establishment of small scientific institutions. If this is done, I am sure his task will become lighter. I welcome this report and I would say that there is one hope for this Ministry in this that the Five year plan is flexible and I hope the flexibility will work to the advantage of the Ministry and not to its disadvantage so that it will get much more money for its projects.

The president, therefore, asks the House for a substantial increase in the grant for this Ministry. I have already mentioned that the fund available for this Ministry is extremely limited. It has been stated by many before that this budgetary allocation is too small and that the budget should at least be increased by 50 per cent. The president said that the allocation should be increased by 69 per cent. This is a very fair and reasonable view. The president also expressed the hope that the budget for this Ministry will be increased in the future.
Yet with all its poverty and barrenness, Garhwal gave us the idea of great potential strength and resources. There was water-power running to waste everywhere, when it could be converted into electricity and life-giving power for fields and industries. Probably there were plenty of minerals in that vast area only waiting to be developed.

Thus two expert enquiries seem called for immediately—one for the utilisation of water-power and the building up of hydro-electric schemes, and the other into the mineral resources of the area.

The report of 1937, however, is not available. The present state is not better. The Non-Ferrous Industry is still suffering from time to time for inadequate reserves. The initiative and the financial resources of the Government.

As the non-ferrous industry is comparatively new and had no time to provide adequate reserves for profits and is suffering from under-production, it is not possible for the existing concerns to take the lead in providing the necessary capital for prospecting work and, of non-ferrous metals; therefore, the initiative and the financial resources for this work will have to come mainly from the Government.

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The sanctioned strength of the Survey is 322 gazetted posts, of which 209 gazetted posts were actually filled during the period. Of the sanctioned 360 non-gazetted posts, only 474 could be filled.
Sir N. M. Lingam (Coimbatore): I may be the last speaker today on this subject and I shall be very brief.

The Planning Commission, while discussing the mineral development in this country have said:

"The rate at which mineral development takes place and the extent to which minerals are used for industrial production are among the principal indicators of a country's economic development. Development programmes for minerals and for industries have to be closely integrated. The fact that on the eve of the Second Plan, when ambitious industrial programmes are envisaged, the exploration of India's minerals resources is incomplete, emphasises the urgency of obtaining more detailed knowledge of them."

The observation of the Planning Commission at once emphasises the need for developing our minerals resources and sets the tone for future activity. But at the same time, the Plan is about Rs. 11.5 crores. At the seem to have a clear programme for the development of our mineral resources.

We hear that the provision for mineral development in the Second Plan is about Rs. 11.5 crores. At the same time, we understand that a provision of Rs. 30 crores is considered. We do not know the basis of these figures and on what lines the Commission is working or what the programme of the Ministry is and whether there is agreement between the Ministry and the Planning Commission with regard to mineral development. These are not clear and I hope the Minister will throw some light on this aspect of the question. Time is of the essence in this development. It is a race in which we start with a great handicap. The Ministry has had the advantage of consultation with foreign experts—the Russians, Canadians and the Rumanians—and it ought to be in a position to place before the House and the Planning Commission a definite programme of development. I hope the Minister will give us some indication of the programme that he envisages for the development of the industry.

There is another important question in this connection: whether the development of oil is to be taken up in the public sector only or in the private sector. According to our industrial policy—perhaps it is also the consensus of opinion in this House—the exploitation of the oil industry should be in the public sector. But the delay with which this important question has been tackled in the past shows that even if it is in the public sector, a method should be devised by which more expeditious action is taken for tapping the oil in the country.

In this connection, I cannot refrain from paying a tribute to the Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research. I know he has fought against tremendous odds and made the country, and the planners especially, oil-conscious. But for his energy and drive, the Planning Commission would not have given the exploitation of oil the importance that it seems to have now given.

This brings me back to the Industrial Exhibition that took place in Delhi a few months back. There the manufacturers from great industrial countries of the world were brought together, and they brought to a focus the scientific and technological advances of the various countries and we were awakened to the great leeway that India had to make up in the development of her technological and scientific research.

Here I have to mention that geological survey is the basis of all other surveys. The Geological Survey of India is at present dissipating its energies on various matters. A preliminary geological survey is necessary for hydroelectric projects, dam sites, steel plants and for each and everything. I do not know whether the full requirements of the Geological Survey of India for the Second Five Year Plan have been taken into consideration. I would urge upon him to see that this team is not sent over other projects so that he may have intensive concentration on geological survey for the mineral development only.

With regard to the exploration of oil, the following processes have to be undergone: geological survey, gravity survey, geophysical prospecting and then test drilling. We do not know the programmes under each of the above items. We find that surveys are being undertaken all over the country—instead of each area being subjected to each of these tests. We find a superficial survey—preliminary geological survey—
we know whether the railway is going to oil from the future refinery. The existing prospecting licence consciences are going to be brought to the House; we do not know the details. The financial implications of the rupee company are not clear. We also do not know whether the setting up of the future refinery is a subject matter of negotiations with that company nor do we know whether the railway is going to make arrangements for the transport of oil from the future refinery. Information on these vital issues has to be placed before the House so that the House can give its approval to the whole question.

The exploration of oil in the south is also an important question. The Russian geologists have indicated the possibility of oil not only in Orissa but also in the Deccan alluvium. I would request the hon. Minister to give us an indication of the programme for the development of the mineral oils in the south.

It is reported that the Ministry is going to have a new directorate for oil and natural gas. We also hear that foreign technicians, consultants and scientists are going to be brought to man this directorate. The House would like to know the relationship of these foreign experts with the directorate. It is vital that in such a directorate our scientists and our experts have at least equal voice, if not a dominant voice. I hope the Minister will enlighten the House on this very important question.

We have a partnership with the Assam Oil Company, and the Standard Vacuum Oil Company. I am voicing, I think, the sense of this House when I say that this agreement needs modification to ensure greater association of the Government of India in these companies.

I cannot dilate upon more details within the limited time at my disposal. I hope the Minister will be able to tell us the exact position of the Government of India in all these matters.

With regard to copper, we are short of our requirements.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Would the hon. Member able to conclude within a minute or two?

Shri N. M. Lingam: No, Sir; I will require about five minutes more.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He can continue on the next day. We will now take up the next item on the Order paper—Private Members' Business.

3 P.M.

CHILD SANYAS DIKSHA RESTRAINT BILL*

Shri Dabhi (Kaira North): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the restraint on Sanyas diksha of a child.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the restraint on Sanyas diksha of a child."

The motion was adopted.

Shri Dabhi: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

PROCEEDINGS OF LEGISLATURES (PROTECTION OF PUBLICATION) BILL *

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The House will now resume further discussion of the motion moved by Shri Feroze Gandhi on the 23rd March, 1956, that the Bill to protect the publication of reports of proceedings of Parliament, State Legislatures and their Committees be taken into consideration.

Out of 4 hours allotted for discussion of the Bill, 1 hour and 58 minutes were taken up on the 23rd March, 1956, and 2 hours and 2 minutes are still available.

*Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 2, dated 6-4-56, pp. 183-185.
Shri Raghuvar Dayal Misra may continue his speech.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Order, order. There are a large number of hon. Members who have expressed their desire to participate on this important Bill. If the hon. Members agree that they want to have a time-limit placed on the speeches then, perhaps, they might be able to accommodate a larger number of Members to participate in the debate. Shall we have 15 minutes for each Member?

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava (Gurgaon): 10 minutes.

Pandit Balkrishna Sharma (Kanpur Distt.—South cum Etawah Distt.—East): I am told that there are some important Members who will speak on this Bill.—Shri N. C. Chatterjee is one of them—and we would like to hear them for a longer time.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Then we fix it at 10 minutes normally and in some cases 15 minutes.

The Minister of Legal Affairs (Shri Patsukar): I think I should be given about 20 minutes.

Shri Deputy-Speaker: Exceptions would be...
Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I have received notice of an amendment, at this stage, that the Bill be referred to the Select Committee. Normally it is very difficult to accept such an amendment at this late stage, but if the mover of the Bill and the Government agree, I will have to waive notice and condone the delay. I must know first whether the Government agree to the amendment.

Shri Feroze Gandhi: Government is prepared to accept a reference to the Select Committee. But the Bill in its very nature is such that I do not know whether it involves a question of accepting the principle or not. But I do not think that question will arise. So, Government do wish that the Bill be referred to the Select Committee. Let the Bill be considered thoroughly and let the Select Committee first decide what to do and in what form, etc.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It is not for me to lay down any rule or tell the House whether the Government would be accepting the principles of the Bill or not. If Government agree to this amendment, they will have to decide those questions. I am only to be told whether the Government agree to this amendment.

Mr. N. C. Chatterjee: I hope the Government will create no difficulty having regard to the importance of the Bill and the repercussions that it will have both on the press and on the working of Parliament.

Shri Pataskar: I am agreeable to the Bill being referred to the Select Committee.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Under the circumstances, notice is waived and the delay condoned. So, I shall call upon Shri Rane to move his amendment.
the legislature. We are unable to recommend that newspapers should be fully protected when they publish parliamentary proceedings, since, in our view, the privilege attached to speeches in the legislature cannot be passed on automatically to newspaper reports of such speeches. In our view, this is a matter for determination by the legislature concerned, and we have no recommendation to make in this behalf, since we understand that the Parliament of Indian Union is likely to appoint shortly a committee to examine this question."

Recently, the Government of India appointed a Press Commission, and the Press Commission, in its report, has observed as follows:

"We recommend, however that Exception 4 to Section 499 of the Indian Penal Code be amended by inserting the words 'or of Parliament or State Legislature' to give effect to the principle Wason vs. Walter." These are the observations made by the Press Commission. In view of this, I think there is hardly any necessity to substantiate the necessity of this Bill.

On going through the provisions of the Bill and also comparing them with the provisions of the Defamation Act of 1952 of the United Kingdom I find there is some lacuna in the present Bill. For instance, in clause 2 of the Bill, the word 'newspaper' has been defined. I find there is a difference between the definition given here and that given in the United Kingdom legislation. I also find that in clause 4 of the Bill the mover seeks extension of privilege to the broadcasting of the speeches, made in the Legislature etc. In this matter also, I find there is difference between this Bill and the United Kingdom legislation.

Besides, the most important clause is clause 3. Clause 3 says: that no person shall be liable to any proceedings in any court in respect of any proceedings of either House of Parliament or of a State Legislature or of either House of a State Legislature where it consists of two Houses or of any Committee, etc., unless the publication is proved to have been made with malice.

I have gone through the provisions of the Constitution. I find that entry No. 39 in list II of the Seventh Schedule runs thus:

"Powers, privileges and immunities of the Legislative Assembly and of the members and the committees thereof." etc.

At least it appears to me that this House perhaps may not have power to pass a piece of legislation which may curtail the rights of the State legislatures. So, this is a question which will have to be gone into carefully. I think the best course will be to refer the Bill to the Select Committee.

As far as the personnel of the Select Committee is concerned, I need not speak of them. They are all distinguished Members of this House and they will do justice. With these observations, I commend my motion to the acceptance of the House and I also request my hon. friends Shri Feroze Gandhi, the mover of the Bill, and Shri Pataskar, the Minister of Legal Affairs, to accept this motion.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Amendment moved:

"That the Bill be referred to a Select Committee consisting of Shri Hari Vinayak Pataskar, Dr. Ram Subhag Singh, Shri Tribhuvan Narayan Singh, Shri Ganesh Sadasiv Altekar, Shri Narahar Vishnu Gadjil, Shri Nemi Chandra Kastilwal, Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad, Shri Abdus Sattar, Shri Balkrishna Sharma, Shri Kamakhya Prasad Tripathi, Dr. Shaukatullah Shah Ansari, Shri A. M. Thomas. Shri Feroze Gandhi. Shri R. Venkata raman, Shrimati Subhadra Joshi, Shri Radheshal Vyas, Shri Padman Lakshmaya, Shri Tekur Subrahmanym. Shri Shanker Shantaram More. Shri Jaipal Singh, Shrimati Renu Chakravarty, Shri K. Ananda Nambiar, Shri Amjad Ali, Shri K. S. Raghavachari, Shri Bhawani Singh, Dr. A Krishnaswami, Shri N. C. Chatterjee, Shri A. E. T. Barrow, Shri Pusinhi B. Dabbi, and the Mover, with instructions to report by the 1st May, 1956."

The original motion and this amendment are before the House. I have received the names of eight hon. Members who are very anxious to speak. There may be others also. I find that half of them, four of them, are included in the Select Committee. There have been cases where Members have
been allowed to speak as a special case. Not that half of them should be allowed.

An Hon. Member: Shri Gadgil and Shri N. C. Chatterjee are always exceptions.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Shri N. C. Chatterjee.

Shri N. C. Chatterjee: It is very kind of you to permit me to speak although my name has been put down on the Select Committee.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Not without your consent.

Shri N. C. Chatterjee: Yes. It was with my consent. You will find that my hon. friend Shri Gadgil also spoke and also my hon. friend Shri S. S. More.

Shri Gadgil (Poona Central): Even now my consent was not ascertained: but I have given.

Shri N. C. Chatterjee: When the Maharashtrians have got that privilege, Bengalees also should be given that privilege.

Shri S. S. More: (Sholapur): There was no talk to Select Committee when we spoke.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The time limit is there. The hon. Member should keep that in view.

Shri N. C. Chatterjee: Coming to the merits of the Bill, the House will remember that four years hence we will be celebrating the 100th anniversary of the enactment of the Indian Penal Code. As you know, it was enacted in October, 1860. It was drafted by Lord Macaulay who was the President of the First Indian Law Commission. This draft Code was submitted to the Governor-General in Council. It further underwent revision at the hands of two great lawyers, Sir Barnes Peacock who was the Chief Justice of the Calcutta High Court, and Sir James Colville. Shri Fakir Chand is right when he points out that there is a serious lacuna in the Indian Penal Code and that lacuna is this. Under section 499 of Indian Penal Code, as you know, which deals with the law of defamation, there are certain exceptions. The fourth exception is not comprehensive enough. The fourth exception says that it is not defamation to publish a substantially true report of the proceedings of a court of justice or the result of any such proceeding. In the year 1860, when the Indian Penal Code was enacted, they never thought of any Parliament. There was no question of any democratic chamber. There was no adult suffrage. There was no legislature.

Shri S. S. More: There was a legislature, but no democratic legislature.

Shri N. C. Chatterjee: As a matter of fact, there was something like a parody of a legislature, which was practically a packed legislature consisting of nominees of the bureaucracy. Therefore, there was no question of any parliamentary privilege.

What we are pointing out is this. We want the same law to be enacted by Parliament here, that law which was clearly laid down by a great judge in England in the year 1868, on the 25th of November, in the leading case Wason vs. Walter. Chief Justice Cockburn laid down the law very clearly. That law, I submit, should be enacted by this Parliament. Otherwise, parliamentary democracy would not at all be effective. It is no good having a Parliament with 500 Members elected on adult suffrage. It is not a question of my attacking, or criticising the other Members of Parliament. It is not a question of Members talking to each other. The question is, parliamentary discussion and debate must be communicated to the nation. We are daily on our trial before the entire nation. Therefore, if parliamentary debate has got to be effective, it must be communicated to the people. It is no good saying in the Constitution that our speeches are privileged. That means that if anybody says anything here, he cannot be prosecuted. No action civil or criminal lies in regard to that speech or that debate. That is not enough. You must, at the same time, give the fourth estate the essential immunity in order to make parliamentary democracy really effective. You remember the great speech of Sheridan when he stood up in the British House of Commons. He said, "I defy you"—he addressed the Treasury Benches—"I defy you, you can have a corrupt Cabinet, and a pliant monarchy, but give me the freedom of the press, if I get that freedom to publish your speeches and focus the attention of the country on what is being done here, then I can vindicate the rights and
[Shri N. C. Chatterjee]

liberties of the people.” Therefore, it is no good saying that we have got the right to deliver our speeches. That must be communicated by the press. The press must have the corresponding right. What did Chief Justice Cockburn say? The judgment lays down that a faithful report in a public newspaper of a debate in either House of Parliament containing matters disparaging to the character of an individual which had been spoken in the course of the debate is not actionable at the suit of the person whose character has been called in question. That is the immunity which we want to confer on the press. We do not claim any fundamental right to commit slander or to commit libel. There is a feeling that Shri Feroze Gandhi’s Bill is meant for the purpose of getting additional rights to Members of Parliament for the purpose of indulging in vituperative attack. Nothing of the kind. I would be the last person to endorse any such Bill or legislation. What I am pointing out is this. We are responsible people. We have come here as responsible character as representatives of the electorate for the purpose of vindicating public grievances in the discharge of our public duties. It is often our unpleasant duty, not a pleasant duty, to expose the misdeeds of persons who are dealing with public funds or quasi-public funds or who are placed in such important positions that they are in the position of trustees or quasi-trustees. If they commit any default or breach of trust, we are bound to make public the extent of the same. If we as representatives of the electorate, have got to focus the search light on those misdeeds and call upon the Government to take action. If they do not do that, we have got to take steps against the Treasury Bench. All that we are saying is, it is no good delivering speeches here exposing the misdeeds of the people in power or authority. We have got, at the same time, to see that the people who discharge their duty honestly and fairly, without malice, without any ill motive, without any oblique motive, should be given the protection of law. Justice Cockburn goes on to say that publication is privileged on the same principle as an accurate report of the proceedings in a court of justice is privileged, namely, that the advantage of publicity to the community at large outweighs any private injury resulting from the publication. That is exactly the principle on which I am asking this Parliament to accept this legislation or modify or amend it if necessary in view of this very salutary principle laid down. The advantage of publicity is for the national good. National good demands that there should be full publicity and although it may not result in some private injury resulting from the publication of the debate, this great Judge points out that even if it should be made immune from any attack. Judgment has been delivered by the British House of Lords in a recent case reported in 1949 A.C. where they pointed out that the principle is very important. The principle is common convenience and welfare of the society at large. It is for the vindication of that principle that I take it that Shri Feroze Gandhi has introduced this measure. It is only by that yardstick that I want to support this Bill. ‘General interest of society’ is the language used in McIntosh’s case. In leading case Stuart V Bill, 1891—2—Q.B. 34, H the great Judge said that the general advantage to the country in having the proceedings made public must not be lost sight of. Therefore, although it may connot reflect, although it may connot a certain amount so-called defamation, how can a man possibly complain if a newspaper man is simply publishing honestly, bona fide and without any malice, the debates which take place, because that is to the general advantage of the community as a whole?

In another case Rex. vs. Wright 8 TR 293 and Davison vs. Duncan I find the Judges put it on this ground: “Balance of public benefit derived from publicity” is the test. I am pointing out that is the test which should be followed.

Now, privilege is accorded to a fair report of the proceedings of courts. I do not understand this. If I stand up as Counsel in the Supreme Court and attack strongly some businessman or some person in authority in the Government, I get perfect immunity, nothing can happen if that speech of mine or submission of mine or argument of mine is published in the daily press in any part of India, but if I deliver the same speech here, then the press does not get the immunity. I submit this is unfair discrimination. This is not right. I submit the Supreme Court is entitled to the highest respect, and Counsel cannot perform his duties unless that immunity is given to him and the im-
munity is given to the press. But I cannot understand what is the difference between the speech or submission made or an address delivered in the Supreme Court of India in the next room and the speech delivered in public interest by a Member of Parliament in this House. As you know, the British House of Commons and the British Parliament have been called "This High Court of Parliament". Here this Parliament also in a sense is a Supreme Court. It is also the highest tribunal for the redress of injuries, for the vindication of the basic rights of human beings. If either the public sector or the private sector does something grossly wrong, and if in discharge of his public duties as a representative of the electorate a Member has got to expose the wrong, it is only fair that not merely he gets the immunity, but the press also gets the requisite immunity.

I had pointed out to Shri Feroze Gandhi,—and I am glad that he has accepted it,—that it should not be made an absolute privilege. He has made it a qualified privilege. I am happy to find that he has put restraint on his anxiety to vindicate the press. Therefore, he has put it in this way. In clause 3 you find this language: "unless the publication is proved to have been made with malice". Therefore, if there is malice, if a publisher is given facts and figures and he does not publish it in spite of demand, then the courts may reasonably infer malice. Malice, as you know, means not merely ill-will, it means oblique motive; though it is said to be published for public good, it is with some other motive. Therefore, the courts have got the power to punish the delinquent if there is ill-will, if there is malice, if there is oblique motive.

I think on the whole this is a Bill which deserves the sympathetic attention of this House. We are not taking power, unrestrained power; we are not assuming any prerogative of indulging in general libellous slander either of the private sector or the public sector and therefore I submit that this should be carefully considered by the Select Committee, and I hope the principle of the Bill will be accepted by this House.

Shri U. M. Trivedi (Chittoor): I oppose this Bill. I oppose this Bill with all the emphasis at my command.

Pandit Balkrishna Sharma: Not vehemence?

Shri U. M. Trivedi: Why I oppose it is because I doubt the motives of the Mover.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motives?

Pandit Balkrishna Sharma: Is it a parliamentary expression?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Let us hear him more. Perhaps he might clear it.

Pandit Balkrishna Sharma: He has doubted the motives of an Hon. Member.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Perhaps his next sentence might clear it. Otherwise, I will....

Shri U. M. Trivedi: With all the respect in which I can hold Shri Feroze Gandhi, I still doubt that he is guided not by bona fide considerations. Why I feel it is this.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member persists in this.

Shri N. C. Chatterjee: Now, it is really mala fide.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Certainly. I would request the hon. Member not to carry on in this strain. Motives are not to be doubted. He may have different views on a certain point, and there can be differences of opinion even with the best of motives on both sides. If it was said in a lighter mood that is a different thing, but persistently to say it again and again is not fair.

Shri Gadgil: Is it parliamentary or not?

Pandit Balkrishna Sharma: He will gradually come round, don't mind.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I also hope so.

Shri U. M. Trivedi: I am sorry that I had to use that language, but if it touches my friend....

Shri Feroze Gandhi: No, no.

Shri U. M. Trivedi: I offer my unqualified apologies to him. I have absolutely no mind to injure his feelings, but why I felt like this is this.

Shri Feroze Gandhi: What you said should also be published.

Shri N. C. Chatterjee: And with impunity.
Shri U. M. Trivedi: I thank him for that liberalrity. I think hon. Members will allow me to proceed.

When we make use of this forum with the knowledge that what we speak here in this House is so much privileged that whatever we say here cannot be made a ground for defamation either of a criminal nature or of a civil suit of a libel type, and then if we succeed in running down a particular individual here, name him, give details about false or frivolous or vexatious details about his doings, we desire that those very things which we said here which are not proved may still be published to ruin that man outside in the country. I say that we must cry a halt to have such a desire at our heart that with that desire we want to get it published.

Shri Trivedi: I want to say this; I feel it. Perhaps with the best of motives, speeches may have been made by particular hon. Members; yet can they say that they do not get funky about it if they are allowed to be published in the press to achieve the same object which they wanted to achieve here inside this House? If that is the object, then I must very respectfully submit that this Bill goes a longer way than we will ordinarily allow.

Ordinarily I would have immediately agreed that a lacuna does exist, but does it exist except by reading the words in the Indian Penal Code, because the exceptions do not cover exactly the privilege which a man can enjoy inside this House? We must remember that the law in England on libel is the same as the law in India so far as the civil law is concerned, and what has been decided in England on the question of civil liability still holds good in India. There is not a single case where any distinction has been made and it has not been said that the law is the same as the law in England is. I find that two of my friends for both of whom I have got very great respect for their knowledge of law, are shaking their heads.

Shri Gadgil: Significantly shaking.

Shri U. M. Trivedi: With great respect to both of them I say that the law is as I said, that the law is that the civil liability of libels stands on the same footing in India as it stands in England. So, the question of removing this lacuna does not arise. What arises is this, the criminal liability, the liability which is attached under section 499 of the Indian Penal Code. If anyone wants to do a thing for public good and to help the public good, under the provisions of section 499, if a truthful statement which can be verified is made on the floor of the House, it can without any qualms of conscience be published by anybody in a newspaper. And he is completely protected, so far as our law is concerned. I therefore feel . . .

Shri Feroze Gandhi: He is not protected from any action.

Shri U. M. Trivedi: He is protected from criminal action.

Shri Feroze Gandhi: No.

Shri U. M. Trivedi: You say so, but he is.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: What Shri Feroze Gandhi means is that that may be a good defence, but he is not protected.

Shri U. M. Trivedi: What he wants is an absolute privilege. I say that that privilege attaches to him by virtue of the fact that what he said in the public good is a truthful statement, but with this proviso that there is no malice, and in fact that is the sort of proviso which the hon. Member himself has put down in his own Bill in clause 3 in the following words:

"...unless the publication is proved to have been made with malice.".

Now, suppose a Member makes a speech here, and he is also the editor of a paper; then, after making a speech here, suppose he goes and gets it published in his own press. What is there to suggest that it is entirely due to malice, if this law is made? But today, it would be malicious, and today he will not be protected even by the provisions of the Indian Penal Code.

But suppose a Member comes here and makes a speech referring to a criminal case in all consciousness and with full conviction that what he has done is in public interest and he is closely connected with a newspaper, wherein the publication is necessary
then what happens? Then I say with a challenge that any man, any good man, who has got the courage of his own convictions and who is the editor of a press can always publish it, and there is nothing to bring any action against him.

Here, look at the example which is there. Shri Feroze Gandhi is not probably well-briefed. I would request him to go and read law of debates in the house; what he speaks today is published and is available for sale, and the price is only three annas or four annas. They are always available for sale, and you can always reprint them as much as you like.

Shri Feroze Gandhi: No, you cannot reprint them.

Shri U. M. Trivedi: You can go and reprint them.

Shri Gadgil: The immunity does not extend there.

Shri Feroze Gandhi: Only if it is by an order of the House.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Should I be a silent spectator when this issue is being settled?

Shri Gadgil: Bad barrister.

Shri U. M. Trivedi: My difficulty is this, that I know too much or I do not know anything.

Pandit K. C. Sharma: (Meerut Distt. - South): Both may be true.

Shri U. M. Trivedi: It is just possible that too many cooks spoil the broth. With so many lawyers about me, they think that they understand everything and I do not.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: If the hon. Member keeps to addressing a layman like myself, then it will be all right. Why should he indulge in discourses with the lawyers?

Shri U. M. Trivedi: They were disturbing me, and hence I was led away. I am sorry. It was a mistake on my part. I shall now address the Chair.

I submit that this Bill is not going to serve any purpose. If Government had felt that it was essential, if any fact had been found out by virtue of which it was possible that the proceedings of this House were made the subject-matter of an action, of a criminal action, in any court of law, and if such an action had in any manner succeeded, then there would have been a ground for Government to come round and say...— Pandit Balkrishna Sharma: There is the Calcutta High Court case.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Let us hear the hon. Member. He has got very limited time. Let it not be spent away in this manner.

Shri U. M. Trivedi: . . . and that case ought to have been brought forward by Government to indicate that the lacuna does exist. In this particular instance, I do not know whether that case has gone to the Supreme Court and a final decision has been obtained on it. For, our Government are always anxious even to validate the illegal Acts. They would have certainly given protection, if it were a legal act which required validity. So, an exception to section 499 could have been brought in by any Bill by Government. The exception could have been introduced into the Indian Penal Code itself. But this Bill in its present form tries to give an absolute immunity of a type...—

Shri N. C. Chatterjee: Not absolute; it is only qualified.

Shri U. M. Trivedi: Yes, absolute. You call it qualified only because the word 'malice' is there; therefore, it is qualified liability, not privilege.

Shri M. L. Dwivedi: When it is in public interest. (Interjections.)

Shri U. M. Trivedi: Please do not disturb me.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member may leave that part of the job to me, and perhaps I might do it.

Shri U. M. Trivedi: I am sorry. My contention still holds good, and I do maintain that what is formulated here in this Bill is a question of an absolute privilege. With that absolute privilege are added the words:

"...unless the publication is proved to have been made with malice."

Such a question will arise only when the editor himself happens to be a Member and also a publisher. Then only the question of malice would arise. Otherwise, one Member may be set up to
say a hundred and one things against a particular man such as that he is a drunkard, he is a rogue, he is a badmash and so on, and in this way, all sorts of accusations can be showered on that man on the floor of the House; and then, there may be another gentleman who may have been paid something or the other by a publisher of a paper who goes and publishes all the gibberish that is being uttered here.

Pandit K. C. Sharma: On a point of order. May I know whether such a thing can be uttered here? It is contempt of the House.

Pandit C. N. Malviya (Raisen): You cannot permit such things.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: If a Member says that all these things can be uttered on the floor of the House, then is that contempt of the House? It is not a point of order. Whether we can conceive that such a thing would be uttered or not is the point. That would not be a point of order. He conceives that such a thing can be uttered, and the hon. Member feels that it cannot be friend.

Pandit K. C. Sharma: He should not conceive.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: So, it is only a difference of opinion.

Shri U. M. Trivedi: I shall leave the question of conception to my learned friend.

Shri S. S. More: You better deliver now.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I would request hon. Member to remember that it is a serious matter of very great importance, but we are rather taking it in a lighter mood. We have to consider it very seriously. Besides, there is too much of noise, and perhaps all hon. Members cannot listen to the hon. Member who is speaking.

The hon. Member's time is also up.

Shri U. M. Trivedi: I shall conclude with this one word. My submission is that even the exception that is put down here in the following proviso:

"... unless the publication is proved to have been made with malice."

is of no use, and it gives complete and absolute privilege to a person who wants to make use of this forum. Therefore, my submission is that the Bill is unwarranted.

Shri Tek Chand (Ambala-Simla): I have had many occasions to listen with great care to the speeches of my hon. friend who has preceded me. On very many occasions, I have differed from him. Today, I find his speech singularly innocent of all logic. I endeavoured to analyse what he said, and the more I analyse his speech, the more I feel that the Bill has been brought forward not one day too soon.

When I perused the language of the Bill, I thought it was capable of considerable improvement. The Select Committee will no doubt prune it. The Select Committee will no doubt bring about certain changes with a view to reflect in precise language the laudable intention behind it.

The law of defamation today, whether we are thinking of criminal culpability or of civil liability, is imperfect in many respects. There are certain persons who are a privileged class and whose privileges, no doubt, well worth preserving, are not of such a high order which the law need jealously guard. There are other bodies whose privileges ought to be preserved, because it is necessary in the national interest, and the law has omitted to do so. The parallel before you is to be found in exception 4 to section 499 of the IPC dealing with the law of defamation. It says:

"It is not defamation to publish a substantially true report of the proceedings of a Court of Justice, or of the result of any such proceedings."

But, curiously enough, Lord Macaulay omitted to include or omitted to add an exception conferring similar privilege to a house of legislature, whether democratic or nominated or otherwise. Why? There is an innate anomaly that needs rectification, and that is this. In a court of law, it is usually, ordinarily, the conduct of a single individual or a few individuals which is the subject of scrutiny, and it is open to a lawyer in any court to give all the lip-lashing he can to the witnesses, to the parties, whomsoever he may, like but, of course, a responsible lawyer always knows his limitations and he al-
ways conducts himself with commendable self-restraint. There is also the brake imposed by the Judge. But when it come to a similar person or persons or corporations who may be doing, in accordance with the contention of one side, considerable damage, may be to the nation, may be to the society, may be to the bulk of the people, you can say with advantage what you like in this House and bring it to the notice of every other colleague in this House which is the voice of the people, but the people of the country cannot know what has been said here because the newspapers have not got the identical immunity.

With the best of motives, anyone of us may in the House bring to Government’s notice certain foibles, certain errors, even certain culpabilities of a public person, a public body, a government servant or anybody, in order that the Government may be persuaded to take good action in good time. But that very Member cannot communicate what he has done to his own constituency, neither directly nor through the agency of the newspaper, because a tremendous amount of protection is being made available by the existing law to the person liable, though really guilty as to the allegations which happen to be the subject-matter of the libel. The result, therefore, is that our deliberations or utterances, howsoever weighty, howsoever responsible, howsoever necessary for dissemination to the nation, remain abortive because the newspapers next morning dare not publish what is otherwise considered to be of advantage to the larger interest. Therefore, while a lawyer can say what he likes in the course of arguments with respect to a party, with respect to a witness, with respect to the conduct of all abettors of conspirators, this cannot be communicated to the larger forum, to the larger court that is the nation, by its accredited representatives, and the vehicle for communicating what goes on here seems to be petrified because the law of defamation is in the condition in which we find it today.

Therefore, it is absolutely necessary in the larger interest, in the higher interest, that a similar privilege should be accorded to newspapers and others like broadcasting organisations who are reflecting what is substantially true, what is substantially correct, what is said in good faith and published to the nation at large.

In this connection, the principle underlying the grant of privilege was stated to be—I mean, with respect to judicial privilege—that “though the publication of such noxious things may be to the disadvantage of a particular individual concerned, it is of vast importance to the public that the proceedings of courts of justice should be universally known. The general advantage to the country in having these proceedings made public more than counterbalances the inconveniences to the private persons whose conduct may be the subject of such proceedings”. These weighty words become of much greater value when we relate them to the utterances made here and to be brought to the notice of the nation. That privilege will more than counterbalance any inconvenience, any discomfort, to the person who happens to be the victim of those speeches.

Then again, it is a privilege which is not a licence. There are three checks Whenever a speech is made which attributes impropriety of conduct to an individual, the first check is the Chair, the Speaker himself. The moment I start uttering anything which is improper, which is unparliamentary, which is defamatory, the Chair will check me. The second check is the check of my own conscience. I should see that I shall not abuse this privilege whereby a person who is not here to answer back may suffer. The third check is the check of a responsible newspaper-man who will see that he does not publish something that is vituperative, something that is gross, something that is ugly and improper.

Shri M. L. Dwivedi: Why not the check of the Members sitting here?

Shri Tek Chand: If my hon. colleague desires to elevate himself to the level of the Chair, his check is certainly there; he is the fourth brake.

Therefore, I feel that these checks are there and there is not the remotest chance that we will take leave of our good sense, of our sense of responsibility and simply let ourselves loose into vulgar, and vituperative epithets with respect to persons not here. But this privilege is necessary because the newspapers should not feel that the Sword of Democles is hanging over their heads. I can say what I like here, but
[Shri Tek Chand]

if these very words of mine are reported by someone else, then of course he can get it in the neck and I go. scot-free. That state of law is unfortunate and deserves to be rectified.

It will not be improper to just very briefly see the well known landmarks in the growth and development of the parliamentary privilege vis-a-vis the law of defamation in England. There, the speech of a Member of Parliament from his seat was privileged and, but he was the exclusive beneficiary of that privilege. The state of law in England was that statements made by members of either House of Parliament in their places in the House, though they might be untrue to their knowledge, could not be made the foundation of civil or criminal proceedings, however injurious they might be to the interest of a third person.

4 P.M.

This limitation was removed in 1840 by the Parliamentary Papers Act of 1840. It extended the privilege to a small extent; that is to say, protection was extended to publication of any papers by the direction of either House or of any copies of such papers. But the privilege which is being claimed was not yet extended in England in 1840. Later on, of course, it was.

The latest statute law in England is the 1952 Act, to which a reference was made by an hon. Member. But, I wish to invite his attention and that of other hon. colleagues of mine here to section 7. Section 7 extends a qualified privilege to newspapers. The publication in a newspaper with respect to any matters mentioned in the schedule attached to the Act is deemed to be a privilege only if the publication is proved to be made without malice. More than the section itself, the schedule is important. And, the schedule provides extended privilege to a fair and accurate report of any proceedings in a newspaper of the legislature of any part of Her Majesty's Dominions outside Great Britain. In 1952, the newspapers in England had the privilege not only vis-a-vis what was reported or said in the Parliament of England alone but to anything reported in the Parliaments or Legislatures of the Dominions. Similar privileges have been extended with regard to the proceedings of international organisations, international courts etc.

Therefore, the law should be brought in consonance with logic and the privilege should be extended not only to newspapers but also to pamphlets and broadcasts.

When my hon. friend who preceded me was referring to the privilege mentioned in the Bill he did not notice that there were not one but more than two hurdles before a newspaper could take protection of law, and the hurdles are firstly, the report should be substantially correct. Secondly, it must be made without malice. Thirdly, and it is the third provision which he did not notice,—the publication should be for the public benefit. With these three hurdles before a newspaper to clear, I do not think there will be any occasion—not one in-a-hundred chance—of its abusing the privileges and in case it transgresses the limits, even then, I submit, the same principles vis-a-vis the law courts and what are known as judicial privileges apply to larger degree in the case of reproduction of the deliberations of this House outside the House.

Shrimati Ila Palchoudhry (Nabdwip): This Bill has come not a day too soon. I thoroughly support the Bill because it was high time that we had a Bill like this. The Press today holds the key to public opinion and it is the responsibility of the Press to mould and create that opinion in a democracy. After all, the public are the people who will assess the good of anything and will reject that which is good. So, the Press must have full freedom to reproduce that which is said in this House because it is here that many policies are decided and many speeches are made and if we cannot get them across to the people, how can the people get full knowledge of what is being done? Otherwise, you shut out really what you are doing in this House from the people.

Sir, Laski has said that "a people without reliable news is sooner or later, a people without a basis for freedom." So, surely the freedom of the Press must be a primary condition in a free country. In fact, the Press in every country has it. England has it; the U.S.A. has it and India is the only country where we have not got it. If you look at some figures which I have taken the trouble of collecting, you will realise, that after all, in an illiterate country like India what small diffusion of news we have of whatever happens in this august House. The circulation of daily
newspapers in India is estimated at a little over 2 million copies and that gives a distribution roughly of 6 copies for every thousand people. Compare it with other countries. For instance, in England there are 596 to every thousand, in the U.S.A. 354, in the Netherlands it is 81, in the Philippines it is 25 and even in Iraq it is 10. But, in India it is 6. So, you can realise what a small percentage of our people really do get the news. It is this small percentage, the intelligentsia that will read the newspaper and it is this small percentage again that will create the opinion of the democratic public. Even if this very small percentage is denied a comprehensive knowledge of the proceedings of the legislatures, what adequate diffusion of information can there be? The democratic public of India must be given full scope to know and hear what has been said in this House. Actually, the very fact that it can be reproduced in newspapers. I think, will constitute a wholesome restraint on Members who may be willing to or inclined to make high-flown or wild speeches in this House. I think it is a practice amongst lawyers that they are allowed to abuse the opposing lawyer.

Shri Tek Chand: It is not the practice.

Pandit K. C. Sharma: They have the highest respect for each other.

Shrimati Ila Palchoudhury: But, they are encouraged to do that sometimes, as lawyers themselves know! When the case is weak, abuse the opposite lawyer!

But, parliamentary practice and tradition already holds that every responsible Member of this House does not use anything or say anything about which he is not sure and which can harm another person. When this Bill is passed—and I hope it will be passed and also accepted by Government—after it has been duly reformed a little by the Select Committee, I think it will have some effect on the Press also, because when they have this privilege, they will be automatically, more careful.

Shri Feroze Gandhi: Their proprietors will be very careful.

Shrimati Ila Palchoudhury: The proprietors will be very careful because one does find very peculiar things reported in the Press. I have a little unfortunate experience of my own. When Helen Keller was here, I spoke about Helen Keller, but imagine my horrified surprise—that I had spoken about 'Helen Killer!' the 'e' having been changed to 'i' and so on. I was glad and thanked my stars that it was not reported as 'Helen the Killer!' It has been said: "You cannot bribe or twist, Thank God, the British journalist". But it has also been said: 'Seeing what the man will do, unbribed, there is no occasion to.' So, I hope the Press will be more careful once it gets this privilege and the re-write man will not let his imagination run riot. The journalists must be the same every where more or less! I hope that freedom and scope which are the very essence of full growth will contribute to the stature of the Indian Press. In India we yet need that ideal Press which is national and yet has international outlook, a Press that can be right without being righteous, a press that can be colourful and vivid without being cheap and nasty. With full protection achieved, of reporting anything that has been said here. I think that that ideal Press will develop in India which will fully justify the highest expectations that Indians have of this national forum, and the journalists of the future behind that Press would feel, that they “sit down at the heart of men and things" abide therewith liking and respect.

Sir, I warmly support this Bill.

Shri M. D. Joshi (Ratnagiri South): I wish to congratulate the hon. Member, Shri Feroze Gandhi, on bringing this very desirable Bill with regard to the privilege of the fourth estate of the realm. I belong personally to the fourth estate of the realm. So many times I have been proceeded against in the law courts, and on all occasions I have emerged unscathed.

However, the editor runs a great risk in trying to report faithfully the proceedings of a Legislature. I find that at least one hon. Member is unnecessarily afraid that this liberty of the Press, which is tried to be secured by this Bill, will be abused especially by Members here and members of journalism acting in combination. That means that hon. Members in Parliament as well as journalists will have to be in unison or in collusion in wickedness. I do not think that the general character of the Members of Parliament is so low that they will begin to abuse all their powers simply because there is
[Shri M. D. Joshi]

this additional liberty for the Press to be secured still. At the most, I would say that the liberty of the Press, which will be additionally secured by the provisions of this Bill, will cause greater responsibility on Members of Parliament to be guarded in their utterances and greater responsibility on the Chair also which is the guardian of the good character of Parliament. It has been already pointed out by several of my friends that this liberty already exists in several nations—U.K., U.S.A., etc.—and I wish to cite a few examples in which this liberty of the Press is there already in America. I shall cite three cases in which there have been decisions of American Law Courts cited in a book which has been recently published, Problems of Law in Journalism.

There was a case Swearingen vs. Parkersburg Sentinel Company. The newspaper reported or alleged that twice the amount of money intended for other purposes was transferred into the general fund by the municipal council, of which the plaintiff was a member. The plaintiff was not only a member of the municipal council but was a candidate for mayorship. He went to the court of law and the court decided that the management of the municipal funds was a matter of public anxiety and, therefore, the newspaper was protected and there could be no successful libel against that journal. The judge said:

“Anything connected with the plaintiff's official duties was a proper subject of discussion, which, if made without malice, was not libelous.”

It will be found here that the words “without malice” have been inserted in order to give proper protection to an innocent person.

Then there was another case in which even not the most correct report but an ordinarily correct report, which was made more readable by the imagination of the newspaperman, was given protection. The court stated that paraphrasing or restating the substance of official proceedings, and almost universal newspaper practice in the interest of making the stories more readable for laymen, sometimes raises a question of the accuracy of a report from an otherwise privileged record. Therefore, giving a substantially correct report with an imaginative addition for making the report more readable is also given protection.

Thirdly, there was another case in which the report of the grand jury was made in a newspaper and it was given protection. There the court said:

“A report, by a newspaper, of proceedings had a public meeting of a municipal council, in which proceedings the public has an interest, when the report is a fair and accurate one of the proceedings had, is privileged, even though it contains matter defamatory of another. Reports of such proceedings are privileged in the same manner as are reports of judicial proceedings. It is not necessary in reports of judicial proceedings, and hence of the proceedings of municipal councils, that the report should be verbatim; nor is absolute accuracy essential so long as the report is substantially correct.”

I need not add to the instances on this. When the law of defamation was laid down in the I.P.C., there was no Legislature. Lord Macaulay and his colleagues had not before their mind's eye the case of the Legislature because there was no Legislature then existing and public opinion was not so insistent and vocal. Now the Legislatures have come into being and the Indian nation is free. We are here in Parliament discussing great matters of moment. It is but natural, and I think it has been rightly said that the Bill has not been brought forward a day soon because we here are discussing matters in the world, matters of moment, and therefore, newspapers ought to be given this very desirable protection. I have done, Sir.

पंडित हार्दूक भारत भारताः: उपाधिकार महोदय, यह सब जो हार्दूक (सर) के सालने हैं, यह सिक्कका था खाली नहीं है और इनके अन्य मुक्तिलिक पहलुओं पर धर रखने से कह एक तरह के सूचना बिंदुओं में भारत हैं कि हमको रखा कला बाहिल है। में श्री राम का मजाकर है कि उन्होंने यह सज्जनी रखा है कि यह किस (विश्व) की सेविका केमेटी (प्रभार संपरित) के लिए किया जाय क्योंकि कई वनस्पति केमेटी
Subject to the constitution and the rules of procedure
It is my humble opinion that it is not a healthy parliamentary practice for a private Member belonging to the party in power to bring such a piece of legislation which ultimately is accepted by the Treasury Benches. I think a Bill like this should have been brought by the Government itself and passed here.

That would have been a better practice. Otherwise, this kind of privileges belong to the Opposition and not to the Members of the party in power. Of course, these are only points relating to the technicalities of the Bill.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: Sir, with your permission, I want to suggest to the hon. Member that he is taking away the powers of the Congress Party to introduce Bills, which the law has given and the rules have provided for. I would request him to reconsider before he wants to put such a sort of restriction on the Members of the Congress Party.

Shri Velayudhan: There is nothing to reconsider; I am not on the Treasury Benches.

Shri S. S. More: But, we wish him to be there.

Shri Velayudhan: With regard to the Bill, I was practically ignorant about the lacuna that was existing in the privileges of the Members of Parliament, the journalists and the news world. It is very essential that we, who have come here as Members of Parliament duly elected by the people, should ventilate certain grievances here before the Parliament on behalf of the people. At the same time, if it is not made known to the public outside, I think it is a curb on our privileges which will automatically amount to a curb on the privileges of the people as well. Therefore this Bill is very essential to the development of democracy in our country. I had no occasion to know that such a lacuna was there, because anybody making a speech here can make it as a platform or an organ of propaganda. My impression was that when we speak something here, anybody, even we ourselves, can publish it. Now that this Bill has come, I think it is quite essential that we should pass it. It is very important as far as development of democracy in the country is concerned.

We have got restrictions imposed on our freedom by various legislations. Take for instance the Indian Penal Code. Also, several oppressive legislations were passed in this Parliament to curb the powers of the people and even the powers of the Members of Parliament. Therefore, it is a welcome thing that a Member belonging to that Party itself brings a legislation like this. Therefore, I support this Bill. In the beginning I only mentioned about the
[Shri Velaudhan]

undeserving aspect of this Bill being brought by a private Member and not by the Treasury Benches. The Bill is a small one and I do not think the Select Committee will take a long time to bring it before the House after it has considered it. If it takes a long time even for this Bill, it is very unfortunate.

Sir, I once again submit that I fully agree with this Bill. I give my full support bringing such a legislation before the House and once again I congratulate Shri Feroze Gandhi for having brought it before the House.

Shri Pataskar: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, from the debate it appears that a very large number of Members support the idea underlying a legislation of this type. I believe it is, to some extent, very natural.

So far as the question of law is concerned, I think it had been sufficiently discussed, but to recapitulate I would only put the position like this. So far as the speeches of hon. Members in this House are concerned, there is absolute immunity to them from any proceedings, whether civil or criminal, being taken against them for whatever they say in Parliament or what the members of the different legislatures or in the different legislative assemblies say. So far as the publication also is concerned, our Constitution makes provision that with respect to the publications which may be made by Parliament itself, even if they contain something, I think that publication will not attract any liability whether civil or criminal.

The main question, therefore, is: what about the Press, whose duty it is to report from time to time the proceedings of this House or the different legislatures in India? So far as the English Common Law is concerned, as was pointed out very rightly, there was a decision in 1868 which made it clear that:

"A faithful report in a published newspaper of a debate in either House of Parliament containing matter disparaging to the character of an individual which had been spoken in the course of the debate is not actionable at the suit of the person whose character has been called in question. But the publication is privileged on the same principle as an accurate report of proceedings in a court of justice is privileged, viz., that the advantage of publicity to the community at large outweighs any private injury resulting from the publication."

So, the state of law in England is that, ever since that ruling, so far as publication of proceedings in Parliament are concerned they are privileged like proceedings in the judicial courts. Not only that. Subsequently they passed an Act by which this protection was extended to proceedings of local bodies like municipal boroughs and others.

So far as India is concerned, with respect to the civil law which comes under the general law of Torts, we know that the law of Torts was never codified. The hon. Mover on that day referred to some provisions made in one of the draft proposals with respect to codifying the law of Torts. Naturally it was a very very long time back. As we know, the Law of Torts contains several other subjects; for various reasons, it was not codified. Therefore, so far as India is concerned the civil law has not been codified. With respect to the criminal liabilities, as was pointed out, under sections 499 and 500—499 defines what is defamation—we find that there are certain exceptions. Naturally Exception 4 is an important provision, as also Exception 9. Exception 4 says:

"It is not defamation to publish a substantially true report of the proceedings of a court of justice, or of the result of any such proceedings."

Then the Explanation says:

"A justice of the Peace or other officer holding an enquiry in open court preliminary to a trial in a court of justice is a court within the meaning of the above section."

As was pointed out at the time when the Indian Penal Code,—which I agree with Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava is one of the best statutes and has got a very effective purpose,—incorporated this Exception 4 with regard to the proceedings in courts,—the matter would not have assumed such an importance—probably there was no question of such exemption being made in the case of Parliament and legislatures. In those days there was some sort of a legislature consisting of some few nominated
members, mostly of the Executive Council. In those days there was hardly any Parliament or legislative body in India. It was for this reason, probably, that such a provision had not been made in the Indian Penal Code.

Now, having briefly stated the position of law as it stands at the present moment, the main question is: when we passed the Constitution, the Constitution, no doubt, has made provision in article 105 with respect to the rights of Members and the privileges and immunities which they enjoy saying that they shall be on the same basis as the immunities and privileges enjoyed by Members of Parliament in the United Kingdom; but whether that should be extended also to the press, in a qualified or in an unqualified manner, was a matter on which there was difference of opinion so far as the Constituent Assembly itself was concerned. Therefore, that point was not stressed beyond the stage of providing for immunity for the Members themselves. Probably it was thought that by this Constitution we were going to introduce so many important changes and that we were going to give very wide franchise. It was probably thought that it was safer to wait till we come to a definite decision as to whether it should or should not be extended beyond confining it to the Members of Parliament alone. That is the state of things at present.

So far as this question is concerned, there is again another important point. This is a concurrent subject. When we have to legislate on a matter which is within the competence of both this House as well as the State legislatures, it is desirable and it is necessary that we ascertain also the views of the State legislatures concerned. Last time, when this Bill was introduced by the hon. the mover, I tried to gather the views of the different States regarding the present measure. But I have been able to get the views of only seven States. They are as follows: the Saurashtra Government says that it agrees to the Bill so far as it relates to the criminal liability. But it does not accept the principle regarding civil liability. That is the opinion of that Government. That means they are prepared to go to the extent to which probably the Press Commission itself suggested in its report. But beyond that they are not prepared to go.

Then, the Government of Kutch says that concessions proposed in the Bill may be misused and that safeguards in addition to those contained in clause 3 of the draft Bill appear desirable. So, their opinion seems to be that they apprehend that these provisions are liable to be misused and that, therefore, there should be some additional safeguards provided.

The Madras Government has offered no comments. It has nothing to say in the matter.

Then, Tripura is in agreement with the object of the Bill.

Shri Feroze Gandhi: Tripura?

Shri Pataskar: That is also a State Government. It is in favour of the Bill. Then, Assam does not support it. Bhopal has no comments to offer.

Shri S. S. More: What about Bombay?

Shri Pataskar: I am yet to receive their views as also some other Governments.

Shri Gadgil: There is no one Government there!

Shri Pataskar: So, that is how the matter stands with respect to the legislatures of States. I would, in the circumstances, suggest—looking at the very brief history of this question—to the hon. Members and to the Select Committee to which this Bill might go, that so far as the States and their legislatures are concerned, it would be much safer to make this Bill applicable only to the proceedings of Parliament, and leave it to the States legislatures themselves for their own application. Let the State legislatures subsequently decide whether they want to adopt this law or adopt in a modified form or whether they do not want to adopt it. I hope that would be a perfectly democratic and constitutional method of approaching this question in view of the difference of opinion that has been clearly made out in the reports of the State Governments so far received.

Then, another point amuses me a little. I found that some people seemed to labour under the impression that a Member of Parliament can say anything in this House, as if it is all uncontrolled speech. That is the impression. I cannot quote anybody. But, I believe that it is not correct. Because I find in our Rules of Procedure, there is rule-
[Shri Pataskar]

332, which specifically lays down what an hon. Member while speaking ought not to do. Of course, it may be a fact that many hon. Members either are not aware of it or forget it while they speak. That is a different matter.

Shri Gadgil: That is a reflection on the Chair.

Shri Pataskar: But, so far as the provision in our Rules of Procedure is concerned, it clearly lays down that a Member while speaking shall not utter treasonable, seditious or defamatory words. So, in the first place, any hon. Member of this House, so long as these rules stand—they have not been changed—is not allowed to say any defamatory words. So, much harm is not likely to be caused if this Bill is passed. There is this check. The first safeguard is the Rules of Procedure. Under the Rules, nobody shall say anything defamatory. I think good taste also demands the same thing. I am sure my colleagues in the House are all anxious to observe the Rules. There is not much cause for hesitation.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: What about 'treasonable and seditious'?

Shri Pataskar: They are also there. What is seditious also changes according to the times. What was seditious in pre-Independence days was something different. Now the circumstances are different. I do not want to go into the details of that question. The point that I am now on is that even now there is restriction on what we call reckless of speech of some hon. Members. The people are naturally afraid, not in this House, but as I gather from the opinions received, elsewhere. Then, the Speaker is there, you are there to control and see that the rules are observed. Not only that. You have also the power to expunge anything which has been said in contravention of the Rules of Procedure which are prescribed in this House. Supposing somebody says something, there is rule 393 which provides that it can be expunged.

I find by going through the several objections that are raised, there is this fear. A man may say something here which is entirely defamatory or seditious or whatever we may call it. It may take some time before the attention of the hon. Speaker or the Deputy-Speaker or Chairman is drawn and before they are expunged.

An Hon. Member: He is presumed to be very vigilant.

Shri Pataskar: It may be that before they are so expunged, they may find their way into the press. That is one of the fears, which I am not putting forward in an imaginary way. I would like to point that out so that it may be considered when the Bill goes to the Select Committee to which I have agreed. That is one of the things of which some people are afraid. Of course, I am sure, as I said, the hon. Speaker and the Deputy-Speaker who are the custodians of the honour and prestige of this House, will naturally see that these rules are properly observed. There is always the machinery of Parliament which can look into all these things. I think these fears are not entirely removed. So, there is no reason for much hesitation about what we are doing so far as this Bill is concerned. If, as I said, in the first place we confine it only to the Houses of Parliament and in the next place, we submit the phraseology of clauses 3 and 4 for scrutiny by hon. Members of this House. During the course of the debate I found some of the hon. Members thought that probably it was the anxiety of the Treasury Benches or the Members on this side that this freedom should not be extended to the press. I can assure them that it is far from reality.

Shri S. S. More: Good sign.

Shri Pataskar: Not only good sign, but if we were only to refer to this debate itself, I would say that the Treasury Benches have all along shown a greater regard to bearing and putting up with things which the Opposition very rightly have got the right to say. As Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava was saying . . .

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: They also in turn have heard the abuses that now our Ministers are hearing. They were more tolerant because they to an extent deserved the abuses.

Shri Pataskar: Whoever crosses from that side to this side has to have a thick skin. He cannot afford, there is no question whether it is now or before. I will give only one instance. When the hon. Member moved his Bill on the 23rd there was a reference to lawyers. I was only reminded of this casually, I do not make a point of it.
"Where lawyers are not very popular..."

Probably the hon. Member was saying he is not a lawyer himself, but I must state here that though he is not a lawyer, he has taken great pains to study the law so far as this particular aspect is concerned, and really I think that none of the lawyer members who have spoken after him have been able to add to what he has already said. That is a very good compliment though he modestly said he was not a lawyer.

Naturally somebody might have thought that bad lawyers are popular. That has nothing to do now. Somebody might have thought that bad lawyers have become Ministers. I think it is not only the present practice. Even in the past....

Shri S. S. More: Is that not a traditional policy?

Shri Pataskar: This comes not from the present Minister, but from an ex-Minister. So, it is applicable to all, whether present or ex. It is not applicable only now. It is a very good truth. But even ex-Ministers when they move from these benches and go there, forget this would apply to them. That is what I wanted to point out. So, it is the habit and we have to put up with it. We have all played that game. That matter is different, it does not come into the picture at all.

The only question is what should be done in the matter. Who is defamed, what is the aim, is all different. That is why I believe on the whole it is a very good piece of work that is being tried to be done by the Hon. Mover. He has brought forward this legislation. I think it will be referred to the Select Committee.

Then the question was raised whether it means acceptance of any principles. Well, so far as I am concerned, I am of the opinion that there is no question of any principle involved. Everybody is agreed. As we look into the speeches, the question is: what should be done so that there should be no bar on proper and efficient publication which might correctly give right information to the public in general to which they are entitled, because they are entitled to know as to what we are doing here. Naturally, people outside do not look at it from the point of view whether we are defaming or not. They think we are Members of Parliament doing work of national importance. Therefore that question we need not at all take into consideration. And I believe that so far as the principle is concerned, nobody wants that there should be any hurdles placed in the matter of the proceedings of this House being properly reported without any malice in the best interests of the society and the nation. It is from that point of view that I agree to the amendment which has been moved by the hon. Member Shri Rane that the Bill be referred to the Select Committee. I hope the suggestions which I have made will be taken into account, and the Bill will emerge in a form which will remove all fears, suspicions and apprehensions in the minds of a few Members, if they still have them.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I do not think the Mover wants any more time now to reply to the debate.

Shri S. S. More: No.

Shri Feroze Gandhi: No.

Shri Keshavakengar: May I know what has happened to amendment No. 2 which I had tabled? I had put it only for the identical reasons that were anticipated by the Law Minister. We are making provision here for the State legislatures also. So, I thought if it is sent for circulation, the local legislatures, the State Governments and the local bodies and everybody else concerned would be consulted. That was the object with which I had moved this amendment.

Shri Feroze Gandhi: They are already being consulted.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: If the hon. Member wants me to put it to the House, I shall put it. But Government are not prepared to accept it. Now that they are prepared to accept the other amendment, it is implied that the other amendments will not be accepted by them. Would the hon. Member like me to put it to vote?

Shri Keshavakengar: The Mover has not been pleased to accept the amendment suggested by the Law Minister.

Shri Feroze Gandhi: Yes, I accept the amendment for reference to the Select Committee, I have already told you, Sir.
Indian Penal Code (AMENDMENT) BILL

INDIAN PENAL CODE (AMENDMENT) BILL

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: So, the Mover, Government and others also are agreed that the Bill should be referred to the Select Committee. Now may I know the reaction of the hon. Member?

Shri Keshavangar: In view of the observations made, I do not press it.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That the Bill be referred to a Select Committee consisting of Shri Hari Vinayak Pataskar, Dr. Ram Subhag Singh, Shri Tribhuvan Narayan Singh, Shri Ganesh Sadashiv Altekar, Shri Narhar Vishnu Gadgil, Shri Nemi Chandra Kasiwal, Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad, Shri Abdul Sattar, Shri Balkrishna Sharma, Shri Kamakhya Prasad Tripathi, Dr. Shaukatullah Shah Ansari, Shri A. M. Thomas, Shri Feroze Gandhi, Shri R. Venkataraman, Shrimati Subhadra Joshi, Shri Radhelal Vyas, Shri Paidi Lakshmaya, Shri Tekur Subrahmanyam, Shri Shankar Shantaram More, Shri Jaipal Singh, Shrimati Renu Chakravarty, Shri K. Ananda Namibar, Shri Amjad Ali, Shri K. S. Raghavachari, Shri Bhawani Singh, Dr. A. Krishna-swami, Shri N. C. Chatterjee, Shri A. E. T. Barrow, Shri Fulsinhji B. Dabhi, and the Mover with instructions to report by the 1st May 1956."

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: So, the Bill is referred to the Select Committee.

5 P.M.

INDIAN PENAL CODE (AMENDMENT) BILL

(AMENDMENT of section 429)

Whoever, with intent to cause, or knowing that he is likely to cause, wrongful loss or damage to the public or to any person, causes the destruction of any property, or any such change in any property or in the situation thereof of as destroys or diminishes its value or utility, or affects it injuriously, commits 'mischief.'

Indians who play cricket at the quadratic (as the case may be) are

"It is not essential to the offence of mischief that the offender should intend to cause loss or damage to the owner of the property injured or destroyed. It is sufficient if he intends to cause or knows that he is likely to cause, wrongful loss or damage to any person by injuring any property, whether it belongs to that person or not."

These are some of the reasons for this part, which is

"Mischief may be committed by an act affecting property belonging to the person who commits the act, or to that person and others jointly."
Provided that the offender under this section shall be presumed to have possessed the intention to cause or the knowledge that he was likely to cause wrongful loss or damage to the public or to any person.

'Wrongful gain' is gain by unlawful means of property to which the person gaining is not legally entitled.
A fact is said to be proved, when, after considering the matters before it, the Court either believes that it does not exist or considers its existence so improbable that a prudent man ought under the circumstances of the particular case to act upon the supposition that it does not exist.

Every man is presumed to intend the natural consequences of his act.

A prudent man ought under the circumstances of the particular case to act upon the supposition that it exists.
Amendment Bill

5-38 Lok Sabha
Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion moved:

“That the Bill further to amend the Indian Penal Code, 1860, be taken into consideration.”

Does the hon. Minister like to give his reaction now, or would he like to hear some speeches?

The Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): There are only ten minutes left.

Shri Tek Chand (Ambala-Simla): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, I rise to oppose the Bill, because, I find on analysis, it will be a negation of law and a negation of justice.

Now, I want you to examine it with a certain amount of care and scrutiny to which the provisions ought to have been subjected. I am surprised, coming from a criminal lawyer of very great repute, for whose learning and talents I have got nothing but the most genuine admiration, that he should have reversed by one stroke of his pen a well-known doctrine, the ABC, or the very elements of Criminal Law “actus on sit reus nisi mens sit rea” is something beyond my comprehension. No act is wrongful unless it is accompanied by a guilty mind or an evil mind. He says that if, while his driver is driving his car say at night, may be because of the contributory negligence of animals,
he happens to break the leg, may be of a goat or of a calf, then his driver is entitled to maximum imprisonment of five years. He will be presumed guilty. This is the proposition that my hon. Colleague puts forward for accepting before this House in all earnestness. He says that if he happens to drive his car, maybe himself, maybe through a driver, maybe otherwise, and if some harm is caused to an animal, not due to his negligence but through the contributory negligence of an animal, maybe a dog, maybe a Siamese cat, maybe an animal that you do not readily notice, under this draconic law that he proposes—even Draco will turn in his grave as to the severity of the matter—you will have to presume him to be guilty. It is not merely a discretionary but a mandatory presumption.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He has applied it only to 429 and not to dogs and cats.

Shri Tek Chand: No, Sir. Kindly read with me section 429. After the list of animals is exhausted....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: "Fifty rupees" is there.

Shri Tek Chand: "Whatever may be the value thereof", it is said: "or any other animal of the value of Rs. 50". Today you cannot get a good dog for less than Rs. 50.

An Hon. Member: Rs. 200.

Shri Tek Chand: Therefore, my submission is that this sentence imposes upon the negligent man, upon the man who has been rather careless, or upon an innocent man where an animal happens to be negligent.

Not only that. There is another novel proposition in this small Bill. Not only the maiming, killing or damaging of some one's animal by an individual becomes an offense according to him, but it is proposed to make an offense the maiming of an ownerless property. In the proviso he says: "that he was likely to cause wrongful loss or damage to the public or to any person. Now, so far as the public as the owner of any property is concerned, all that I am aware of is the Government. There is no such thing—if I may be pardoned for going back to Roman Laws—as public property or what are called res public or res nullius, no-man's property or ownerless property. Ownerless property or no-man's property cannot be treated as public property. Public property is that which is owned by a public body. To every bird, every animal that stalks the land is a res nullius until it is owned either by a body which is public or by an individual. But, according to the learned author of this Bill, any quadruped injured by an accident or otherwise is covered under this law and five years is the dose that he prescribes. He says that. Normally, the law says, prove a person guilty. Bring his guilt home, the onus being on the prosecution. Then, of course, convict him and give him such a sentence which fits the enormity of his crime. But my learned friend says, 'No'. We start with the presumption that the man is guilty. We are not going to hear anything and we are not going to prove anything! Prosecution is not going to discharge the burden or the onus of proving the guilt, and guilt is presumed! A crime has been committed! Now, it is for that person to show that he is innocent. The entire doctrine of criminal jurisprudence is reversed by this. Everybody who damages an animal is presumed to be guilty and is worthy of a maximum punishment of five years. Not only that. He has been more kind to animals than to human beings. Suppose the same injury is done to a child. Take the same illustration of a car. A boy of 8 or 9 or 10 is run over and has his leg fractured or some injury is done to him. The driver will not be presumed to be guilty. There again, the law expects that if you run over a human being and thereby the person is maimed or crippled, the prosecution will stand and show that the accused person conducted himself in a manner which was deliberate or intentional and it amounted to culpable negligence. That is the worth of human life, and even according to the opinion of my learned friend, there is no such presumption. The words "shall presume" are not there. But in the case of animals, he says, "Well, we are guilty".

My fears are, if this Bill is taken to its extreme limit, I think all of us or at least most of us will be living under a presumption of guilt. I hope we will stop thinking on these lines so that we will not revolutionise the well-settled, traditional rules, principles and canons of criminal jurisprudence.
Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I presume that, the hon. Member wants to continue his speech on the next occasion.

Shri R. D. Misra: I will speak on the next day.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The House stands adjourned, to meet again on Monday at 10.30 A.M.

5.30 P.M.

The Lok Sabha adjourned till Half Past Ten of the Clock on Monday, the 9th April, 1956.
PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

The following statement showing the action taken by the Government on various assurances promises and undertakings given by Ministers during the various Sessions shown against each were laid on the Table:

(1) First Statement:—
Twelfth Session, 1956 of Lok Sabha.

(2) Supplementary Statement No. IV—Eleventh Session, 1955, of Lok Sabha.

(3) Supplementary Statement No. VII—Tenth Session, 1955, of Lok Sabha.

(4) Supplementary Statement No. XIV—Ninth Session, 1955, of Lok Sabha.

(5) Supplementary Statement No. XVIII—Eighth Session, 1954, of Lok Sabha.

(6) Supplementary Statement No. XXVIII—Sixth Session, 1954, of Lok Sabha.

(7) Supplementary Statement No. XXXIII—Fifth Session, 1953, of Lok Sabha.

(8) Supplementary Statement No. XXXVI—Fourth Session, 1953, of Lok Sabha.

(9) Supplementary Statement No. XLIII—Third Session, 1953 of Lok Sabha.

(10) Supplementary Statement No. XXXIX—Second Session, 1952, of Lok Sabha.

REPORT OF ESTIMATES COMMITTEE PRESENTED.

Twenty-fourth Report was presented.

BILL INTRODUCED.

Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Orders (Amendment) Bill.

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS

Further discussion on Demands for Grants in respect of the Ministry of Production was continued and the Demands were voted in full. Discussion on Demands for Grants in respect of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Scientific Research was commenced. The discussion was not concluded.

PRIVATE MEMBER’S BILL INTRODUCED

Child Sanyas Diksha Restraint Bill by Shri Dabhi.

PRIVATE MEMBER’S BILL REFERRED TO SELECT COMMITTEE

Further discussion on Proceedings of Legislatures (Protection of Publication) Bill was continued. Shri Rane moved
that the Bill be referred to a Select Committee with instructions to report by 1st May 1956. The motion was adopted and the Bill was referred to the Select Committee.

PRIVATE MEMBER'S BILL UNDER CONSIDERATION

Pandit Thakurdas Bhargava moved for consideration of the (Indian Penal Code (Amendment) Bill (Amendment of Section 429). The discussion was not concluded.

AGENDA FOR MONDAY 9TH APRIL 1956

Discussion on Demands for Grants in respect of Ministry of Natural Resources and Scientific Research and Ministry of Food and Agriculture.