

Pahalgam from Srinagar. They had brought lot of medicines and other things with them

13.00 hrs.

Our Government could arrange for their journey upto Pahalgam. Ultimately both of them came back to Jammu. They met about 5 thousand people from Maharashtra in Jammu ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN (Trichur) : Is that the discussion ? ...*(Interruptions)* What is that going on ? For how long will it continue ? ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA : The hon. Minister has stated that at present no yatri left at Pahalgam. I challenge him on this point. There are at least twenty thousand yatri at Pahalgam at present. Their beaurocrates have informed him that they have deployed three hundred vehicles for carrying people from Pahalgam to Delhi. Not a single vehicle has been deployed there by the Government. People have paid Rs. 800 to reach Jammu from there. I have myself talked to people sitting in 15 Metador Vans each carrying 16 passengers each. They have paid Rs. 9 thousand to come back.

Railway Minister is sitting here. The whole House is witness to the fact that the Railway Minister had stated all the trains would carry yatri free to their homes. I came back from Jammu last night at 8.00 p.m. Till 8.00 p.m. no such order from Railways had reached there. All the travellers worried. They have been able to run only three special trains till today. The yatri who have returned from there have come back to Delhi only. There are no arrangement for their further journey. The Railway Minister should fulfill the assurance he gave before us: All the yatri are reaching Jammu from there they are to go to their areas. Still they are saying ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : It is enough. Now you sit down ...*(Interruptions)* Normally questions are not allowed in such a manner.

[English]

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY (Visakhapatnam) : What is this going on? We do not want further discussion ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA : Number of casualties is there very high.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The House stands adjourned to meet again at 2.00 p.m.

1302 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till Fourteen of the Clock

1408 hrs.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at Eight Minutes past Fourteen of the Clock

(Mr. Deputy-Speaker in the Chair)

GENERAL BUDGET (1996-97)

[English]

GENERAL DISCUSSION

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Now, we go to item no. 17.

Shri C. Narasimhan — not present;

Shri S. Bangarappa — not present.

SHRI IMCHA (Nagaland) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, since I am the only person who is likely to speak on the Budget from the North-Eastern region, my deliberation would not be general on the General Budget. I shall not be general in the sense that I will confine myself to the issues which are relevant to the North-Eastern region.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Imcha, I have not called your name.

SHRI JAG MOHAN (New Delhi) : Sir, thank you for giving me this opportunity. Many distinguished speakers have spoken on points which have been mentioned in the Budget. I would, therefore, not repeat any of the points which have been mentioned by my distinguished colleagues. I am told that there is a constraint of time. So, I will confine myself to only one basic issue which I have in view and which, I think, has not so far been touched. That issue pertains to reforms. Much is being said about economic reforms. The economic reforms were undertaken in 1991.

These are being continued in one form or the other. The basis remains the same. In this connection, I have to make a few basic observations. First is, what do you really mean by 'reform'? Can there be a reform which is restricted only to an economic activity — strictly, a fiscal activity? Does the resource management mean only that you do it — particular taxation or no taxation?

What about the positive attitude which you can adopt? What about the parameter of a new policy that you can adopt? As I said yesterday, during my intervention in the debate on Amarnath Yatra, can you convert your liabilities into assets? Are you are not following a course in which you are really frittering away your resources without knowing that they are your resources or without showing an ingenuity to tap those resources?

The other point which I want to make is : Is there a reform which can be strictly restricted to an economic issue? Can there be a reform like that without changing the basic attitude towards work, without introducing a new work culture in the country or in the administration and in politics? If your work culture remains the same, if your attitude remains the same, if the system of working in the offices remains the same — apathetic and indifferent — can you call it a reform? During the last five years, have you got any indication of the work culture of the nation having changed? Has it led to more productivity in the country, more efficiency in the administration and more constructive attitude in our political and social systems? I will say that this is the basic point.

I would like to show you some of the true faces of reform which flow from my basic proposition. I will illustrate my point by a few examples. Take for instance the issue of power. Our requirements were supposed to be more than 85,000 MW. We did not have the financial resources. A special committee made the recommendation that 43,000 MW should be planned for the Eighth Five Year Plan. Ultimately, it was fixed at 32,000 MW. For the last five years, we have been thinking of reforms and talking about reforms. Our newspapers are full of reform issues. But what is the net result today? I have been seeing a lot of loadshedding and everything. In spite of the fact that your own Plan envisaged a minimum production of 32,000 MW, today, you have got only 16,000 MW. That is the study made by the Tata Energy Research Institute that not more than 16,000 MW are likely to be available. And the Ministry of Power says that they cannot achieve more than 17,000 MW. So, what is this type of reform going on in this country? I cannot understand it.

When your productive capacity is declining rather than increasing, you cannot even implement what is planned for. And the shortfall is a substantial figure — almost 50 per cent. So, I really do not know whether we can still call it a reform.

Now in Delhi, you have been seeing the phenomena. Virtually, there have been riots two days ago. Some of the villagers of Shahpur Jat and some of the persons living even in a posh colony, like Asiad, obstructed the traffic and wives of two police officials

have died. I have seen that in the newspaper. You must have seen that one Station House Officer has been suspended. He wanted the road to be cleared and they were demonstrating in this power riot. DESU is being blamed. Everybody is being blamed. Whatever is the problem, I am not going into this. I am going into the fact that you had approved seven projects in the Eighth Five Year Plan. And Delhi had to get 400 MW out of those seven projects at its share. Other States, of course, had to get their share but Delhi's share was 400 megawatts. Up to this time, not one megawatt has been given. This is our capacity of production. This is our efficiency after so much adumbration of reforms.

Now, let me come to DESU. When the new State Act was passed, the National Capital Territory Act, it was in the Act itself that a New Delhi Electricity Supply Undertaking Board — a Statutory Board — with a modern system of functioning will be set up. It is part of the decision or the Act. Then it was stated there that for a transition or temporary period, the present arrangement will continue. Now five years have passed and the old arrangements are still being kept, the very outmoded system of working, no power with the General Manager and nothing of that sort. It is all an outmoded system of working under 1956 the Corporation Act, 1956 and DESU remains under the Corporation. Why has it happened. It is because of two different political parties coming into power, one at Delhi and the other at the Centre. After the Cabinet decision had been approved to set up a modern Delhi Electricity Supply Undertaking Board, the file was stopped. Five years have passed. So, your political attitude remains so negative. Can you really claim that you have reformed the system? Your productivity remains poor, your efficiency remains poor and your attitude remains negative. You are not bothered about efficiency; you are bothered about assumed political gains that may be there or not. So, this is only one key example which I have given.

Let me come to the next field. I was there in the House but I could not ask the Finance Minister the question at that time because my turn did not come. I am really quoting from his reply to a Starred Question on 26th July, 1996, a few days ago, which was about commitment charges on undischursed loan. Now I am taking only the reform period. In 1993-94, Rs. 70 crore was paid as commitment charge. In 1995-96, Rs. 60 crore was paid as commitment charges. In another subsequent year, another Rs. 59 crore was paid. It comes to about Rs. 180 crore as commitment charges. You had looked up the loan of two per cent of commitment charges. You got the loan earmarked but you did not utilise. Whosoever may be at fault is not my point. My point is our system remains so inefficient that even when foreign aid is available on bilateral basis, we had to pay almost Rs. 180 crore of the poor man's

money. And the Finance Minister may say that we are not paying the interest but we are paying only commitment charges. But I may tell you that even one rupee matters in this country. Give me Rs. 200 crore and I will transform the face of Delhi. It is so lightly passed by saying that it is commitment charges and we had to give and so on. My point is, this is the efficiency of our system. This is the productivity of our system, whether it is the fault of the State Government or the Planning Commission or anybody else. I am not going into it. I am going into the type of reform which you claim that we have had in this country without changing the attitude, the work culture and the systems that are working.

Now, let me come to another factor, the nuclear energy programme. Our hon. former Speaker very rightly referred to the importance of science and technology in the development of the country. What is the position in the field of nuclear energy? In 1988, production of 10,000 megawatts of nuclear energy was planned; approval was given and even advance equipment was purchased by incurring a heavy expenditure of Rs. 1500 crore. But all of a sudden, the programme was slashed. Still I have not been able to understand the reason. Resource constraint is the only general plea which you can always give where you want to give the money, you always give like an economic package to any 'X' or 'Y' State. But such an important programme, a programme of crucial importance, was slashed without taking into consideration the long term implication which the slash has.

Now, nuclear energy production has been reduced to 2000. But I do not think that even 2000 is achievable upto this time. What is the implication of this?

Hon. Finance Minister, I am saying about the 'implication' of this. When you are reducing the programme you are making a very large number of young, talented scientists and technologists idle by not giving them any work. You are depriving them of an opportunity to try their skills to become constructive and learn from experience and raise the level of science and technology in this country. You are now only creating frustration among them. They have no avenues to express their talent, experience and expertise that they have acquired. The older generation of scientists would go out of the scene. Then you would have a big gap. As in the case of cadre management system a big gap arises, similarly, there will arise a very big gap after ten years. For what you do today, you will have to repay for it after ten years. Nobody has thought about this implication. This is a strange type of an efficiency. We are producing only one per cent, not even one per cent, may be 9 per cent or something like that, of the total nuclear energy that is produced in the world. The United States produces about 29 per cent, France

produces, I think, about 20 per cent or something like that.

SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR (Calicut) : Nowadays, the European countries are not producing much nuclear energy.

SHRI JAG MOHAN: If that is your contention then you can stop it. But my contention is that we should acquire new skills ...*(Interruptions)* Anyway, I am not yielding. Let me complete my proposition and then you can have your say. All that I am saying is that you are killing the budding scientific talents in this country by depriving them and suddenly breaking this system. What would happen to those equipments worth Rs. 1500 crore which have been purchased and are lying dormant for a number of years now. What would happen to those industries which you have been developing for this purpose? After all, when this nuclear programme was in practice there were a number of ancillary industries developed for this purpose. Now, BHEL is starved of an order like rotators and all those things which were in use. As they say, various other private concerns were coming up; very high technology units were coming up. M/s Larsen and Tubro was producing all these things. All their orders have been cancelled. With the result, if you again consider pursuing nuclear energy, it would take a number of years for these companies to rebuild their capabilities again.

We have taken a stand on the CTBT. Even if you are able to have an explosion, your technology would be of the year of 1974 and 1975. Every country is trying out new experiments as to how to make positive use of energy. Even if you do not develop a bomb, still you require a continuous flow of talents and expertise in this field. Otherwise, you would lag behind. Does this what reforms mean — that we kill or undermine the constructive and creative talents of the country? We are almost virtually strangulating them. I do not know what type of reforms it could be.

Sir, I would like to mention about another point. We are talking about reforms; flow of capital, the need for investment and so on. I hardly need to say anything about corruption. Blackmarketing and all those things are going on. Everyday in the newspapers we read about scams and scandals. There is an authentic Report prepared by three professors, economic experts, of the University of Florida in the year 1993. They have made a study for the year 1993. That Report says that the flow of capital from India in 1993, after initiation of the reforms process when we were bringing capital by providing all types of incentives and facilities, was about 4,700 million dollars through under invoicing and over-invoicing of exports and imports. All of you know about this. This is their study. I could read that portion if you

so like.

If in 1993 they have given two alternatives, one is 4000 and the other is a minimum of about 2000; four thousand is sort of a ceiling. If the following year the exports have gone up, imports have also gone up. If you project this 1993 figure to 1994, 1995 and 1996, you can imagine, more than 25 thousand to 30 thousand million US dollars could have flown out of this country through this under-invoicing and over-invoicing business. This is the true face of our reforms apart from the question of efficiency.

I will leave out the issue of corruption because of paucity of time. Many of my distinguished colleagues have to speak, and our Party has limited time. Regarding black money, there is a study by a well-known Prof. Gupta who has written a book on the subject. Well, the Government have not made any estimate about the quantum of black money that is in currency. But some estimates have been made on the basis of some studies that it could be as much as 70 per cent to 80 per cent of the national income. I am not an expert in assessing the quantum of black money, but I would suggest that it will be a good idea after sometime to have an expert group to assess the quantum of black money that is in currency.

What is the quality of life that these reforms are generating? Is our objective only to show it in terms of rate of economic growth? What is the quality of life that is being generated? What is the environment we are generating? Delhi has become the fourth worst polluted city in the world. In 1982 when I was the Lieutenant Governor and when Asiad was held, Delhi had become the pride of the country. Every developing country used to ask us as to how we could manage that event. They used to ask, "How have you done this?" We used to take pride in saying, "Look! This capital of ours looks so fine, the environment is so clean, and the traffic movement is so well organised." ...*(Interruptions)* I am saying that there was no pollution at that time, practically none. It was not rated. Whatever it may be, it did not have the distinction of being the fourth worst polluted city in the world. If you want to compare it, and if you still want to take it to number one, you can take it to number one; I have no objection. I am making a very serious point. What is the quality that is being generated? I am only giving an example; I am not saying, "you could have done this and you could have done that". I am only asking you to consider these facts.

What is the quality of life in all our metropolises today? Take Delhi, take Mumbai, take Calcutta, take Madras, in each metropolitan city land value is shooting up. Cost of houses is shooting up. Not a single house is being constructed in any of these areas. Due to the

economic policy being pursued the costs are going beyond Rs. 50 lakh to Rs. 60 lakh. Can you show me any two room or three room flat in any of these cities for less than Rs. 50 lakhs to Rs. 60 lakhs? For whom are we building? Where are the resources of the country going? Even now officers of the rank of Deputy Secretary are prepared to live in slums because they cannot afford anything better. In the recent housing scam that occurred in the Ministry of Urban Development, why were small officials willing to pay Rs. 30000 and above to get a one-room or two-room accommodation? Why were they doing so? Some of them were very honest. They did so because they just could not arrange for their accommodation. And the exploiters exploited the situation. This is the type of reform that we are bringing about in this country.

What are your resources? Urban land is a valuable resource. If anyone says that a city cannot be managed, I say that he does not understand what a city is. Urban land is a valuable source of income in the metropolitan areas. But we have allowed it to be frittered away and taken away by the speculators and the colonisers. Now the *Jhuggiwallahs* are bottled up in the cities. The most valuable land — it is a precious financial point — which you require for very important public projects is squatted upon. The cost of those projects is going up daily. If you want to construct an office, a school, a few Government houses, you are silently watching the cost of the project go high. I tell you that several crores of rupees worth of land is involved in several projects where the cost of the projects is going up. And we say that we are short of resources. The project which would have cost Rs. 2 crore is now costing Rs. 60 crore to Rs. 70 crore.

Now these people have to be rehabilitated. There is no land because it has been bottled up. In the same area you have the land, develop it, acquire it and distribute it in accordance to the needs of the people on 'no-profit-no-loss' basis and to *slumwallas* free-of-cost. I will just complete. I have taken only one point, that is, about nature of reforms nothing else. I will finish my proposition. I appreciate that other hon. Members are there to speak.

My point is that you are frittering away valuable resources, assets. This could be used properly. Now, I am skipping over other things. The point is that the quality of growth and the structure of growth is far more important than the mere rate of growth. Read the Human Resource Development Ministry's Report, 1996-97 in between the lines. What does it say? It says that India is one of the countries which is having jobless growth. I have got all the statistics. I will not read them because of lack of time. But this is the conclusion drawn by them that India is having a jobless growth — if you like, I will read — it means, the employment is going

down. The percentage of capability poor is 56 per cent. Capability poor, as I understand, is those poor who cannot break the vicious circle of poverty and under-employment.

So, these are the facts and statistics. If you see dispassionately, they will show the true face of reforms. It is also rootless. I do not know what type of quality, what type of vision, what type of design of life you want to have in this country; what type of style you want to have. If people have money, they just become consumerists. If five per cent of people are becoming totally consumerists and wanting more and more money; more and more is flowing and 90 per cent of the people are without this. Middle-class will be happy, but 50 to 60 per cent of the people will be living semi-primitive life. You can go and see. It is only two or three miles away from this place. You will find that there is no water, no electricity. You can find defecation ground. If you want to see the true face of reforms, you only travel in any of the railway train in the morning. You will find vast defecation; vast accumulation of stinking water on the railway lines. This is the true face of poverty. If you do not like this type of exposition, I will stop....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : I do not mind. You can speak as much as you like. If the reply has to come, those hon. Members who are there to speak, they have to speak. There should be rationale for time. They have only five or ten minutes...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI JAG MOHAN : Thank you very much. I have no desire...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : You are making good points. You carry on, but other hon. Members should also not be deprived of speaking.

SHRI JAG MOHAN (New Delhi) : All right. In view of that, I will stop here.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Dr. T. Subbarami Reddy

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : Who makes the list? We or the hon. Deputy-Speaker. We make our Party list. This is not fair. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You have made the list. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : Yes, I have given it to the Marshall. I went and gave it. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Some changes were made. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : I can make

changes as many times as I want. I know what is my Party's problem.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : This gentleman requested me that he has to leave by air.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : He should request me, not the hon. Deputy-Speaker. *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I will call according to your list.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : Party management should not be done by the Chair. Party management has to be done by us.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I agree. That is why, I say

(Interruptions)

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : No. I am not happy about it. This has been happening for the last few days. This is not fair.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Imcha.

SHRI IMCHA : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I thank you very much for giving me time to speak. I am sorry, earlier I thought my name was called. That is why I stood up once before. But anyway as I have stated earlier, since I am the only person who is likely to speak from the North-Eastern Region, I shall not be general in my deliberation but I shall try to confine myself to those issues which have relevance to North-East and its development. In doing so, I shall try to enumerate some of the important points which will be general in nature.

Sir, I want to begin by saying that our experience with the Centre in dealing with our problems in the past had been quite frustrating. It is something like a person going to a big hospital with much hope and expectation but soon discovers to his dismay that the people all around are indifferent. Such things actually happen in big hospitals and are not very uncommon. Our people joined the mainstream with great hope and expectation but all these have been belied over the years.

Sir, promises have been made which were never kept and that is what exactly has been going on. I hope these things are not repeated again. At least it is heartening to note that the present Government, the United Front Government, have shown some concern about the development of the North-East Region. But

I feel, Sir, and before I say anything, I clarify some of the points about North-Eastern Region in the Common Minimum Programme has mentioned is definitely a major contribution by the United Front Government. But the point which we are really interested to know is whether this Common Minimum Programme regarding North-Eastern Region, includes measures to revive the ailing financial health of the States which have suffered much during the last few years. That is the most important point which I want to find out from the Finance Minister. It is because unless this particular aspect is taken care of, the normal development programme under the State Plan is going to be the main sufferer. I think that is the most important thing. If it is not done and it is allowed to continue like this, then I tell you, Sir, no programme is going to be very successful. I want to cite an example. No one constructs a dam at the same time allows the water to flow out through seepages. If this is done, the water cannot be preserved by the dam. If the seepages are not plugged, it will not be able to irrigate the land for which it is intended. In the same way, if the present financial problems which are existing in the States which have been badly shattered owing to continuous financial crisis which these States have faced unless this is taken care of, no other programme which may have good intentions is going to succeed. About this I want to say one or two words.

Sir, I believe the Finance Minister knows very well where the fault lies. The fault lies in the change of funding policy which was adopted in the year 1989. The main villain, in this is the Ninth Finance Commission on whose recommendations this change was made. Sir, the consequent. Funding of the Special Category States, where all the North-Eastern States are included. It is this change which has done great harm. The unilateral decision of the Union Government to implement the unrealistic recommendations of the Ninth Finance Commission which have done great harm to all the hilly areas of the North-Eastern Region as well as to the Special Category States.

Prior to 1989, the Centre took special care to see that the States, particularly the North-Eastern States, do not suffer on account of shortages in their non-plan resources. That is why, grants were made to meet those shortages through special sanctions by the Government of India. But after the new funding policy was adopted in 1989, the Centre withdrew its helping hand and left the entire responsibility to manage the non-plan resources to the States without taking into consideration whether these States are capable to raise these resources or not. I think, this is the crux of the problems which have been plaguing the North-Eastern States for the last several years. Unless this is taken care of by the Centre and the Centre review its strength, these problems will persist and continue even in the future

and no development programmes whatsoever would be successful as long as these problems continue. That is the main point on which I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Finance Minister.

This has also given rise to new problems, apart from diversion of Plan funds, to meet the non-plan resources gap. The North-Eastern States have resorted to borrowings and over the years this has resulted in huge debt burden on the North-Eastern States. Every year a large percentage of money, which is meant for development of the region, is being deducted at source for repayment of debt. That is our problem.

The financial figures which are reflected in the Budget are only partially reaching the North-Eastern States. It is not surprising that most of the States are not able to avail the full benefit of even the Centrally sponsored schemes, which are normally funded on fifty-fifty basis, for not being able to manage the 50 per cent requirement. This is the actual state of affairs which we are having today and I feel the Centre must do something. The Centre has to show some concern about this. Unless this is done, this problem is likely to continue. In other words, they should include this particular aspect as well in the special economic development programmes, which are envisaged in the Common Minimum Programme.

Kashmir has also been facing the similar problem like the North-Eastern region. But in the case of Kashmir, I hope, I am correct and as I saw in the papers, the Centre has done at least something and for which we are happy. It is subject to clarification by the hon. Finance Minister that a sizeable amount of grant has been given to meet the non-plan resources gap in the case of Kashmir which will ensure that entire plan outlay, which is a little more than Rs. 1,000 crore will be utilised for development programme only. It will help the State to utilise the entire amount for the developmental works.

I would like to know from the hon. Minister, what is he going to do for the North-Eastern region where we have the identical problems. The problem in the North-Eastern State which they are facing today is not different from Kashmir. Is the hon. Minister going to apply a different yardstick here? I want some clarification on that. Something has to be done in this regard.

If the hon. Minister is really serious to do something for the North-Eastern region, there are two points which have to be taken into account. Firstly, what I want to say is that the Central loan component is really hurting the progress of the developments in the North-Eastern region. Something has to be done about this. Second point is the recurring problem of non-plan resources. That is why I want that two points should be

taken care of.

I will skip one or two points and I am coming to the end now.

Sir, India is presently passing through an exciting period of economic reforms based on liberalisation, market economy and so on. Many new development programmes are being mooted by both the Government as well as the interested private investors keeping an eye on 21st century. For example, there is already a talk of launching a second Green Revolution in the country comprising of poverty belt of West Bengal, Bihar, Orissa, parts of Andhra Pradesh and perhaps a part of eastern Madhya Pradesh.

Sir, what I want to say is that the slogan of liberalisation which has gripped the country today is not our main priority, is not the main priority of the North-East. Our fundamental approach to our development problem is how soon we can build up a network of infrastructure so that basing on that we can start our development to keep pace with rest of the country. That is our main aim. So, in that we hope that the Centre come forward and help us.

In conclusion, I would like to give a short observation, which, I hope, will represent the feeling of people belonged to areas which are far away from this mainland. Sir, what I want to say is that if the successive Union Government continues to neglect this Region, as has been done in the past, it is not unlikely that in the 21st century we shall see a new scenario emerging in the country which will divide the country on the line of economic disparity. I think, no sensible person in the country would like to see such a scenario taking place. That is why, with all the signs of warning already visible on the wall, I hope the Centre would take steps to develop those areas and regions which are far away and in the periphery of this vast country and, I believe, it will be no more neglected.

The problem which I have mentioned is not a small problem and the Finance Minister may not be able to give an off-hand reply because the problem is really a big one. Something has to be done in this regard. Sir, you know where the main defect lies. If you just look at it without doing anything, I think, that attitude will not be very proper. That is why, I hope that something will be done in regard to all the problems that I have mentioned. With that hope I support this present Budget.

MR. DEPUTY - SPEAKER : Before I call the next speaker, I would like to bring to your notice as to what rule 115A of the Directions by the Speaker, Lok Sabha says. It says :

"The Speaker shall not be bound by the lists or order in which names have been given by Parties or Groups or individuals directly. The lists shall be for his guidance only and it shall always be open to him to make changes whenever necessary in order..."

...(Interruptions)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Sir, this is well known. In our wisdom we have given powers to the Chair. ... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I have read this because Shri Sontosh Ji has referred to this.

Now, I call upon Shri Sudhir Giri to speak.

... (interruptions)

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN (Karad) : Sir, we have problems of accommodating many Members. If you kindly stick to our lists, it will be grateful.

....(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Surely. Due to all these problems, the Chair adjusts something.

... (Interruptions)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Sir, the hon. Finance Minister can reply to this debate on Monday. The list of speakers may be exhausted today.(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Now, I call Shri Sudhir Giri to speak.

SHRI SUDHIR GIRI (Contai) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, a Budget portrays the character of a particular Government presenting it. It reflects the philosophy, attitude and behaviour of that Government towards the governed. It states the objectives, concerns and instruments.

Composed of 13 political Parties and groups, the United Front symbolises the varying ideologies and aspirations. Some ideologies are contradictory to each other. So, to bring about a harmony among themselves, they have evolved a Common Minimum Programme. The United Front partners are promise bound to work within the set parameters the CMP. So when the expectations of an alternative development path for the economy are not materialised, we do not hold the hon. Finance Minister wholly responsible for our disappointment. However, we cannot be silent spectators when people's interests are not looked into.

Considering all these aspects, I call the Budget "a mixed bag of seemingly pro-poor but avowedly pro-rich

offerings".

Sir, the Budget, though a continuity to a great extent, gives a new direction. Its new direction consists in the first ever thoughts of doing justice to the people — people who form the vast majority, people who are the real builders of the society and people who are working day in and day out but being inhumanly exploited. The new direction consists in the fact that there has started growing a perception of viewing the Budget as a means of forging a cordial cooperative relationship instead of a master-servant relationship between the Centre and the States. The new direction also consists in the fact that the Government at the Centre has started honouring the views of the Chief Ministers of the States. The new direction will also be found in the attempt to revamp the federal spirit of the Indian policy which was so far being thinned out stage by stage.

Sir, as regards the pro-poor approach of Budget, I am to say that the Budget shows that the Government has concerns for the poor and the downtrodden. Following the counsels of the Chief Ministers of the country and the aims of the C.P.M. of the U.F., the Government has targeted seven basic objectives such as drinking water, universal primary education, health centres, housing, midday meals, rural linking roads and public distribution system. These areas have been accorded more weightage at the cost of IRDP, JRY, EAS, etc. And that is why allocation on these heads have been slashed Rs. 781 crore have been taken away from all these heads.

The total Plan outlay on these heads is 11 per cent less than over the previous year's actual expenditure. But fund allocations on social service scheme for poverty alleviation have been increased by nearly 23 per cent to Rs.11,508.83 crore. This is apart from several other new welfare schemes. An additional amount of Rs. 2466 crore has been provided for the States and Union Territories for implementing these schemes. It is, therefore, clear that in the new scheme of things, the United Front Government is attempting to bring about structural adjustments to launch a frontal attack on poverty on a long-term basis. As a result there has been a 13.7 per cent hike in fund allotment.

Sir, further an amount of Rs.250 crore has been set aside to provide housing facilities and basic amenities to the slum dwellers. An amount of Rs.792 crore has been provided for health care of the poor. Moreover, there are provisions of rupees five crore for establishment of old age homes, rupees five crore for residential primary schools for poor children, Rs. 847 crore for women and child development, Rs. 10 crore for Women's Development Corporation, Rs. 10 crore for destitute women in different States and Union Territories,

Rs. 682 crore for the Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS) and Rs. 188 crore for improvement in the working conditions and training of the workers. Furthermore, provisions have been made for Rs. 5 crore for *ex-gratia* payment of Rs. 50,000 per family to lorry and bus drivers killed in accidents and Rs. 5 crore for building residential facilities for hamals. In addition to all these things, food subsidies to the tune of Rs. 5,884 crore have also been set aside for the poor.

For the sake of the poor the Budget has arranged for wide ranging duty cuts for a host of mass consumption goods. Tooth pastes, detergents, shoes, edible oil, glass, ceramics, etc. have been put in the list of duty cut goods. Easy flow of credit has been ensured for the development of agricultural and agro-industries.

Over and above all these facilities, there are also some other proposals in the budget for the poor. And all these provisions are enough to create an impression that the budget has a pronounced welfare orientation in due deference to the Common Minimum Programme. I fully agree. But the actual expenditure sought to be incurred on these works are very limited. In view of the huge number of the poor and deserving people of the country, the total outlay proposed for their welfare is nothing but a token obeisance. The allocations so made will contribute to gain some positive relief for the time being for section of the poor. These gestures will not achieve the permanent solutions of the problems of the totality of the poor. In spite of such a position, there was scope for the hon. Minister of Finance to mop up resources from the rich. But that source has not been tapped. However, to achieve our goal a comprehensive structural change has to be resorted to.

On the basis of these facts, we consider the budget as a source of thought provocation. The poor, the neglected and the downtrodden will awaken to know what their inherent rights are. They will then participate in the long on-going struggle for achieving social justice. We think the budget itself is not a solution to the long standing poverty problems. However, I cannot but criticise the minuscule offers made to the poor. Hence, here I cannot but point to the poverty of ideas to mop up resources for offering more for the poverty alleviation scheme.

Now, let us see what has been done for the well-off. The United Front Government has not gone in for a modicum of additional resource mobilisation at the cost of the affluent sections. The rural rich have not been touched. Infrastructure Development Investment will increase the manoeuvrability of the rich. The consumer durables have not been subjected to customs and excise duty raising. A large number of self-employed businessmen and professionals have not been brought

into the tax net. Surcharges on corporation taxes have been reduced from 15 per cent to 7.5 per cent. Concessions have been allowed for investments in infrastructure projects. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Sudhir Giri, you are a senior Member. You are reading your whole speech.

SHRI SUDHIR GIRI : Sir, I shall conclude my speech within a few minutes. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You can jot down the points and develop them. It takes more time to read the speech.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SUDHIR GIRI : There are so many factual things which I want to mention.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You can read the relevant portion. It is not good that you read the whole of your speech. You are a senior Member of the House. Please carry on.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SUDHIR GIRI : Capital gains taxes have been reduced from 30 per cent to 20 per cent. Promises have been made to reduce the categories of excise tax to four only. Modvat credit will be extended to textile industry. Handloom sector has been uncared for. Customs duties on some textile products and their inputs have been reduced. Infrastructure Development Fund Company will be set up to finance the infrastructure projects. From these projects well-do-do sections will benefit. The limit of automatic approval for technology imports has been raised from Rs. 1 crore to Rs. 7 crore.

15.00 hrs.

In addition to this, the palliatives of increasing allotment for agriculture and irrigation have not been supplemented by mobilising large resources from the richer section. These processes will act in favour of the rich. Ultimately, the gap between the rich and the poor will widen. The pattern of development contemplated in the Budget will tend to reinforce the growing social and economic inequalities in the distribution of income and assets.

The big business houses, both multinational corporations and Indian houses, have thus secured many advantages. They are not content with the cut in customs and excise duties. They have many grouses. There is no let up in their pressure for more incentives. In the Budget, there has been an assurance of providing level playing fields to the business houses.

But we should bear in mind that our Indian industry is being put to a stiff unequal competition with the foreign firms. The principle of self-reliance is being set aside. This is a suicidal strategy.

As regards the inflationary pressure, it is to be pointed out that it was kept at 4.7 per cent for some time past. But the inflationary pressure has started rising. In the last week, it rose to 5.41 per cent. It will rise further. This is contrary to the promise made in the CMP.

Sir, to achieve the goal of broad-based agricultural development, the Budget proposes to double the credit flow to agriculture and agro-industries. For this purpose, the share capital of NABARD will be increased from Rs. 500 crore to Rs. 1000 crore this year. The RIDF will be given Rs. 2,500 crore for financing rural infrastructure. Under the Accelerated Irrigation Programme, the Centre will provide Rs. 800 crore for the completion of large irrigation projects. These projects will benefit 100,000 hectares of land. There is a proposal for setting up of state level Agricultural Development Finance Institutions for the development of horticulture, floriculture and agro-processing industry etc. In addition to all these proposals, the Government has increased subsidies on fertilizers. Subsidies have also been provided to the power tillers and tractors. These offers should be considered in the background of agricultural production going down by 2.4 per cent and crop production going down by 0.9 per cent last year.

So, the proposals carry significance. These proposals will benefit the farmers. But which farmers will they benefit? They are not small and marginal farmers who will get the benefit. They are not the landless wage earners. The proposed benefits will go to the owners of large land holdings. Big land holders will get the credit facilities. They will be the beneficiaries of subsidies on fertilizers, power tillers and tractors. They were enjoying those benefits for so long, and now they will also remain in the same position.

Now, what will happen to the small, poor and landless agricultural workers? Agricultural development minus these small and poor peasants is not possible. It is true that adequate investment in the agricultural sector will ensure growth. But what we want is growth with social justice. If the vast masses of rural people remain outside the growth process, the goal of achieving social justice will not be reached at. The CMP of the UF Government will not be respected. So, I think that such a development is going to be wholly commercialised. Agriculture is going to be open to the multinational corporations and dominated by big corporate houses.

In the past the industrial sector was given impetus for development. But the domestic industrial houses could not make much advancement. The industrial scenario was subdued. Then, the multinational corporations were invited. Here, how much foreign investment would be made is a matter of guess. Then, again the agricultural field is made open to the multinationals. The vast masses who are engaged in agricultural works will be thrown out. We have seen the effects of the so-called green revolution. The big farmers enjoying the benefits of large credit flow and the irrigated lands have reached the maximum output limit.

The Ricardian Law of Diminishing Returns is at work. Hence the improved technology is not coming to much help. I apprehend a clandestine relationship will grow between the big land holders and the multinational corporations. The marginal farmers, small farmers, landless peasants and artisans will suffer. Hence I urge upon the Finance Minister to arrange for the protection of the interests of the small and landless people of the rural areas by taking the land reform measures with the States. I am aware that land is in the Second Schedule of our Constitution.

The Finance Minister has proposed to set up new private local area banks with jurisdiction over two or three contiguous districts for the purpose of mobilisation of rural savings. We wish that in this area foreign banks do not poke their nose.

In this context I would point out that the rural financial institutions need be strengthened in view of their social acceptance and viability. These institutions have been developed to wean away farmers from moneylenders and to spur unconventional integration of huge rural financial market with the rest of the economy. This has been done over decades. These have resulted in some significant accomplishments relating to their both financial and developmental objectives. They must be capitalised further as recommended by the Agricultural Credit Review Committee known as Khusro Commission.

In this background the functions of Gramin Banks should be properly evaluated. Their position in the rural economic growth must not be undermined.

The Land Development Banks in the rural areas have been made subject to the unequal competition with the commercial banks. The competition is very stiff. But the LDBs are not authorised to undertake banking activities. They are not allowed to take deposits from the rural folk. Then how will they be competent to compete? I would therefore urge the hon. Finance Minister to consider all the aspects of the rural banking business and authorise the LDBs to undertake the full fledged banking business on the basis of the Banking Act of 1949.

The unemployment problem deserves careful consideration of all. The Budget appears to be silent over the steps to be taken by the Government in this direction. It is seen that small scale industry sector has found its place in the budget speech. The SIDBI has been authorised to refinance the State Financial Corporations and commercial banks for modernisation of projects. The proposal will mean capital intensive investment. Such investment will diminish the scope of employment generation. The other sector which could be labour intensive, i.e., agriculture is going to be capital intensive. So, the scope of employment generation is going to be further limited. This aspect needs deep scrutiny.

Public Distribution System is vital in distributing justice to the poverty stricken people. While the prices of the essential commodities are going up, there is no machinery to check them up. It is the poor who fall the worst victim to such price fluctuation. In this perspective it is the public distribution system through which some justice can be done to them by making the essential commodities available at a fixed price. It is, therefore, a mechanism to bring about equality among the people. The system as proposed should be immediately started.

I conclude by saying that in a critical situation of our country people have given their mandate to their representatives. Secularism is to be preserved. Justice is to be done to the socially and economically backward people. Rightly the hon. Finance Minister has construed the electorates' mandate. So, he has said at the outset of his speech that 'what has united us is a resolve to preserve India's secular heritage and to provide a representative Government committed to faster economic growth and enhanced social justice'. The growth and social justice are not two isolated terms. Both are inter-dependent. According to internationally reputed economist, Dr. Amartya Sen, 'it is literacy and good health of the people which can expedite the economic growth of a nation'.

Without the welfare of the vast majority of the people, there will be no real development. I hope the Government will come to the help of the poor and implement the provisions made.

(Translation)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I have to inform something to hon. Members, Private Members Business would start at 4.30 p.m. in place of 3.30 p.m.

(English)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : The reply has to come on Monday.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : But I am told like this in the message sent by the Hon. Speaker, I am conveying the message sent by the Hon. Speaker.

(Translation)

Hon. Speaker has sent me a message saying that Private Members Business would be taken at 4.30 p.m. instead of 3.30 p.m. and hon. Finance Minister would reply the debate at 4.00 p.m. I have names of 11 Members with me and if they take 5 minutes each even then all the hon. Members may not be able to speak. They may therefore speak for less than five minutes each only then all may be covered. Please co-operate.

(English)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dumdum) : In order to co-operate effectively, what I am suggesting is that the Finance Minister should give his reply on Monday, first thing after the Question Hour and not today.....(Interruptions)

(Translation)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : When the remaining demands would be taken by you. Unless this discussion is completed you can not take demands.

(English)

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY (Visakhapatnam) : We are not debating about Finance Minister's speech. We are asking about the time schedule.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dumdum) : That is part of the time schedule. That is why, I request that the hon. Members may have their fill. Let them speak because many unusual things happened. We went to the Standing Committees without any discussion on the General Budget. Let the hon. Minister agree to reply on Monday.

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA (Ferozabad) : Sir, the time for Private Members' Business has been fixed at 3.30 p.m. Those of the hon. Members who want to speak on Budget can speak during 6.00 p.m. to 7.00 p.m. This is related to our privilege. The same thing happen on last Friday as well. ... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : We will see.

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA : The same thing happened on last Friday as well. During the Railway Budget also the similar thing happened and it was skipped. The same situation is missing today. I am to request that justice should done to us. We get only one day per week and this is our privilege, I have to

request the Chair that we should be given protection. ... (Interruptions)

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : One hour does not make any difference. It can be taken up at 4.30 in place of 3.30 p.m. ... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Let it go upto 3.30 p.m.

(English)

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBRAM) : I reply today or on another day, but it is necessary and I make this humble submission that all speakers on the Budget must complete it by today and if that requires encroaching into Private Members Bills for about half-an-hour, you must abide by the Hon. Speaker's direction. It is a different point that I reply on Monday. But the speeches must be completed today.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dumdum) : The House must approve that the Private Members Bills must be taken up.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The House is the final authority. I agree with you. But let us commence at least at 3.30 p.m.

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR (Mumbai North-West) : My humble submission is that to the extent possible the time of the Private Members Business should not be changed. That is my feeling because once in a week, we get this opportunity. If you fix it for 3.30 p.m., it should be at 3.30 p.m.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : We will decide it. Let the clock strike 3.30 p.m.

SHRI RAM BAHADUR SINGH (Maharajanj) : Sir, It has been stated in the Budget speech that liberalisation policy would be further carried as before in order to strengthen the economic condition of the country. This means that foreigners, Multi-national Companies would be free to enter into this country as earlier. Sir, this is a simple thing to understand that if somebody makes investment he has some matter behind it, and that is that he should get maximum profits. But if somebody says that foreigner or some Multinational Co. would come and improve this country, I do not believe it. If the Government feels like that then that means that the Govt. has no faith in its people in their capacity and in their cooperation. I therefore cannot support the Budget which has been presented by the Govt. which does not have faith in this people. It has been mentioned in the Budget for the year 1996-97 under the item related to Receipt and Expenditure amounts as 1 lakh 98 thousand 42 crores and 2 lakh 4 thousand, 607 crores respectively. It has also been stated that the deficit would be covered by taking a loan

of 25 per cent. 20 per cent loan may be raised from within the country, 1 per cent from external sources and the balance from Reserve Bank and the remaining deficit has been left at the mercy of God. It has also been mentioned that 25 per cent of the amount mentioned under the expenditure head should be towards interest payment for the earlier loans. It is clear from the picture that there is something beyond which is different for showing and different for actual implementation. This Budget is like teeth of elephant which are different for eating purposes and showing purposes. This is like a net of whirlpool and the whole country is getting entangled in the economic whirlpool. If a person gets caught in a whirlpool of water there is the other way left to him except to die in the water. Similarly if a country gets caught in economic whirlpool there is no other way left it except economic disaster. The Govt. is trying daily to entangle his country in the economic whirlpool. I am therefore not in favour of this Budget.

Sir, our country is agriculture based country, 70 to 80 per cent population depends one way or the other for its livelihood on agriculture. Agriculture should therefore be given top priority and developed properly. So far it has not been properly developed. If we go through the Budget we find that it has not been provided top priority. Everyday Prime Minister declares that he is the son of a farmer, farmers would be benefitted, but I know farmers would get remunerative prices for their produce only when there is proper development of Agriculture, exports increase, production increases, and we earn foreign exchange. But we cannot achieve anything simply by talking. It is clear from the Budget presented by you that you do not possess so much sympathy for farmer as you should possess. The reason for this is that irrigation is the first requirement for proper development of Agriculture. But the Budget provides Rs. 800 crores for Irrigation Projects. All those works which are allotted funds are even today pending completion and there is no guarantee that the money allocated would be fully spent on the Projects and we will see some concrete results. Gandak Project in my Bihar State is being implemented for the last 22-23 years but has not been completed so far. Farmers lost their lands, Production was affected but farmers have not got any water in their fields. Farmers of agriculture based country have to depend on rains even after 50 years of independence. In the circumstances if somebody says that this government is for the welfare of farmers, it is not easily digestible.

We get plentiful agricultural produce only when rainfall is plentiful, but when we have to face the wreath of Lord Indra the crops dry or destroyed due to floods. Today 20 Districts of North Bihar, about 5 thousand villages and 70-75 per cent population is facing severe flood situation but there is no one to care for them. I am not therefore going to support the Budget.

The Government has initiated a number of Schemes related to poverty alleviation and development of villages. The results achieved in this respect are not commensurate with the amount spent. There is no machinery with the government to see whether the amount being spent is properly utilized.

Whether the number of people given employment is in consonance with the amount spent on Jawahar Rozgar Yojna. The Government does not have any details in this regard. The Government does not have any details about the money spent through IRDP. The Government does not have any details about the benefit accruing to the small and marginal farmer therefrom. Same thing is about Indira Awas Yojna. Shri Rajiv Gandhi had once observed during 1980 decade that an amount of only 15 paise reaches the poor out of one rupee sanctioned by the Govt. for Poverty Alleviation Programmes. The rest of the amount is appropriated by intermediaries and officers. I think the same situation still prevails. There is no mention in the Budget to improve such a situation. How to save the country from this corruption, there is no mention in the Budget in this regard.

It is mentioned in the Budget that cent per cent arrangements would be made to provide pure and clean drinking water throughout the country, but this arrangement does not exist for the 40 per cent of population. The Government decide to under take digging in order to make arrangements for supply of drinking water in a particular but the names of the villages are changed by the Committee but through them the names of the villages are changed. Instead of digging depth of 200 feet only 40 feet deep digging is undertaken because water is available at that depth. I want to say that arrangements for supply of pure drinking water are made for the whole country atleast half the diseases would be eradicated from the country.

15.23 hrs.

(Mr. SPEAKER in the chair)

There has been much discussion with regard to Surface Transport. I fully agree with Shri Shivraj Patil that we can not develop the country simply by laying stress on development of roads. We cannot solve transport problem simply by this method. We have to pay attention towards development of Aerodromes and Water-ways also. At present government is laying stress only on Surface Transport. I am to request that what is the criteria for selection in this regard? What is the criteria to select National Highways? A number of areas of the country are neglected while making this selection. I want to point out that Majhi to Barauli and Chapra to Salempurghat roads of my State Bihar connect not only 2-3 districts but these also connect

Nepal and India as well. These roads are important not only from social, economic and political point of view but these have strategic importance as well. But the Government is not showing any concern about these roads. I request you that these roads may also be included in the list of National Highways and developed accordingly.

Before concluding I would request the Government that there are a number of shortcomings in your Budget. Keeping in view those I do not support the Budget.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : The time now is nearing 3.30 p.m. I think that it was already discussed briefly in the House as to what we should do or what we should not do with regard to the Private Members' Business.

I have with me a list of nine more Members who want to speak on the General Budget. Even if it is restricted to five minutes each, it is going to take around one hour more. I hope that we would be able to finish it in one hour.

Last week, the Private Members' Business could not be taken up and it had to be surrendered to the Government. I think that it would be unfair to keep on surrendering the Private Members' Business every week. Therefore, I would like to keep the Private Members' Business in tact between 3.30 p.m. and 6 p.m. and the discussion on the General Budget would be continued at six o'clock. We would finish the debate today and the Minister would reply on Monday.

We have still got four minutes' time to go for the House to take up Private Members' Business.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Sir, from six o'clock we continue the discussion. But may I know up to what time do we continue?

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN (Karad) : We can sit up to eight o'clock ...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Of course, the decision of the Business Advisory Committee was to sit up to eight o'clock but hopefully, the discussion would be finished before that.

[Translation]

SHRI AMARPAL SINGH (Meerut) : Sir, the hon. Finance Minister has reduced duty on coal by 10 to 15 per cent so that cost of generating power in Thermal Power Station does not go up. But I want to say to the Government through you that if production cost in

our Industries does not come down after GATT Agreement then our Indian Industries may not be able to compete with other countries.

15.27 hrs.

(SHRI P.M. SAYEED in the Chair)

Price of per tonne coal was Rs. 48 in the year 1972 but after Nationalisation of Coal Mining Operation in 1972 the price of coal has touched Rs. 1300 per tonne by 1996. This 28 fold increase has been due to mismanagement of coal mining and corruption and mafia prevailing there. During 1974-75 electricity was costing 20 paise per unit but now it has gone upto Rs. 3.58 per unit. This 18 fold increase is also mainly due to Government control over coal. Cost of production in all the Industries has been going up each year due to heavy increase in the cost of production of coal and Electricity since 1972. I believe that in order to check price rise, for improving the quality of coal the hon. Minister should immediately try to privatise maximum number of Coal Mines and produce Thermal Power and Atomic Power. Only then Indian Industries may be able to compete with other Industries of the world and reduce its production cost.

If High Pressure Boilers are installed by Sugar Mills of the country there could generate 10 times more than their own requirements.

Those Sugar Mills which set up Industries in their premises themselves or collaborate in the setting up of Industries and run those industries with the electricity generated by themselves such industries may be given special encouragements.

I want to tell you this also that any National level Industry which intends to start production with its own power and does not draw electricity from State Electricity Board or from any private sector electricity generating units that industry may also be given relief in excise duty. It has become all the more necessary because Para 13 of the Economic Survey Report for the year 1995-96 says that shortage in electricity generation may continue during 1996-97 as well.

I want to draw Finance Minister's attention towards alternative sources of energy. 80 lakh vehicles are being run successfully on Power Alcohol all over the world. Research is being carried out in Brazil as well as in our country in Indian Institute of Petroleum, Dehradun since 1980 regarding use of Alcohol. So far distance of 22 lakh kilometers has been covered by Alcohol mixed engines.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Will you complete your speech in two minutes because now we have to take up Private Members Resolutions.

(English)

Is it the pleasure of the House to give the hon. Member two more minutes so that he can finish his speech?

[Translation]

SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH : No, I will take five minutes.

(English)

MR. CHAIRMAN : All right, you can continue your speech after six o'clock.

Now, we can take up discussion on the Resolution moved by Shri Prabhu Dayal Katheria. The time allotted for the discussion was five hours. Already, four hours and thirty two minutes have been taken. Only twenty four minutes remain and there are many hon. Members to speak.

15.32 hrs.

PRIVATE MEMBERS RESOLUTION RE : UNEMPLOYMENT — *contd.*

[Translation]

PROF. OMPAL SINGH 'NIDAR' (Jalesar) : Sir, I support the Resolution moved by the hon. Member, Shri Prabhu Dayal Katheria which is regarding Small Scale Industries and unemployment. I will not speak much on this because you have told me about the time and long list of Members who are yet to speak. I want to mention a few points in short so that ruling side listens to me carefully and consider the suggestion put forth by me and improve the condition of lakhs of Small Scale Industries. It would generate employment opportunities. There are a number of shortcomings in our policies with regard to Small Scale Industries. The foremost in this regard is lack of will on the part of the Government. It pays more attention towards big industries. I don't understand its intentions behind it. Some times I feel that perhaps it wants to invest more money on big industries and bigger scams can happen there. They can get lot of income. And perhaps this is the reason that it has no will to do anything.

Sir, the second shortcoming is lack of Technical and General Education. They may produce whatsoever figures but the fact remains that our Technical Education has not touched the level which has been achieved by developed countries and developing countries should achieve. A number of small and big Technical Colleges and General Colleges are required to be opened in all parts of the country.

Sir, the third point is that there is shortage of raw

material. Both of us come from neighbouring areas. Ferozabad is known for Glass Industry. Jalesar for its Ghunghroo Industry and Agra for Foundry Industry. But there is no Depot or Centre in the area from where they could procure raw materials for their requirements.

Sir, the fourth shortcoming relates to lack of effective policy. The Fifth shortcoming is that there is shortage of such officers who are interested in solving the problem of people. I feel that the whole things has stopped. It has come to stand still. Every thing has been turned into stores. Administration lacks sensitiveness. No attention is paid whatever may be happening. What I mean to say is that administrative machinery lacks feelings of cooperation, because there is no co-operation for the development of industries, but if the Industrialists and specially small industrialists wish to generate resources Administration puts hurdles in their efforts. We complicate the matters by entangling into Rules or by taking help of figures. Sometimes morality comes in the way and we don't speak truth. Similarly Administration creates a number of hurdles and creates problems in the development of Small Industries.

Sir, one thing comes to mind and if we are able to solve it then there could be more development of small industries. More employment opportunities could be generated. Our country lacks means of transportation. Industries can not prosper with lack of means of transportation, their produce will not be sold, our people may be able to go anywhere. One more thing I specially want to point out in this regard. There is shortage of power. If power is available at the right time and right quantity small scale industry could prosper more and provide employment to more people. In addition there is lack of proper markets. In our country the small sector has to find itself for its survival, for searching markets, for selling their wares but there is not arrangement in this regard from Government side. At times Melas are organised but these do not provide much market. They merely provide recreation and help in sale of some of its wares as these are held maximum for 15 days.

Sir, I want to draw attention towards one more point the Government and Insurance Companies do not provide any protection to the small scale sector. A survey can be conducted throughout the country in this regard. Small Industries providing employment to a small number of people are not so much of protection as much is provided to big Industries. Nobody hears to their problems even. I can say it with authority nobody sitting here, be from ruling party or opposition or from beaurocracy can say where the Ghunghroos that form part of the Payal worn by women are made. Nobody may be knowing in which area, in which tehsil, district or panchayat area or block these are made. When such a big Administrative machinery of a country is unaware