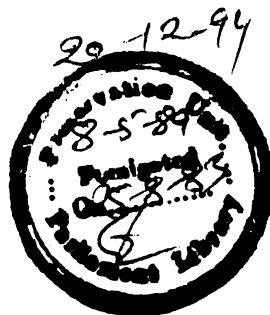


PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

(PART I—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS)

OFFICIAL REPORT



VOLUME II, 1950

(14th March to 17th April, 1950)

FIRST SESSION
OF
PARLIAMENT OF INDIA

1950

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PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES
(PART I—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS)

Wednesday, the 29th March, 1950

The House met at a Quarter to Eleven of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

PAYMENT OF PROVIDENT FUND AND PENSIONS TO DISPLACED TEACHERS

*1168. **Shri Sidhva:** (a) Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state the number of teachers who have left Pakistan and entered into India and who have not received their provident fund or pensions?

(b) What is the number of such teachers from various States?

(c) What steps have been taken by Government to pay their provident funds and pensions?

(d) What is the approximate amount of payments to be made to the displaced teachers?

مدرسٹر آف ایجوکیشن (مولانا آزاد): ایک اسٹیٹمنٹ ہاوس کے ٹیبل پر

[See Appendix VI, annexure No. 3]. دیکھی جاتی ہے۔

The Minister of Education (Maulana Azad): A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 3].

श्री सिध्वा : क्या मैं यह मालूम कर सकता हूँ कि जो स्टेटमेंट है उस में टीचरों का कितना नम्बर है ?

Shri Sidhva: May I know as to what is the number of teachers in the said statement?

مولانا آزاد: ایسٹ پنجاب گورنمنٹ میں جن لوگوں نے اپنے آپ کو رجسٹرڈ کر لیا تھا، اس میں لوکل بوتیز کے ایسٹائی ۱ ہزار تھے۔ اور ان میں ۷۵ فی صدی تھیسٹرس تھے۔ ۱۹ جنوری سنہ ۱۹۴۸ع کو ایسٹ پنجاب اور ویسٹ پنجاب کے نمائندوں کی کانفرنس ہوئی اور اس میں یہ طے پایا کہ لوکل بوتیز کے پاس اس مد

کا جس قدر روپیہ ہے وہ کورنٹوں میں بے قبضے میں لے لیں۔ چنانچہ ۷۵ لاکھ روپیہ پاکستان نے منظور کیا اور ۴۷ لاکھ روپیہ ایسٹ پنجاب گورنمنٹ نے۔ اس کے متعلق کارروائی چل رہی تھی کہ ڈیپلومیشن کا معاملہ نکل آیا اور کارروائی رک گئی۔

Maulana Azad: Among the persons who had got themselves registered with the East Punjab Government the Local Body employees numbered 10,000 and 75 per cent. of them were teachers. A conference of the East and West Punjab representatives was held on 19th January, 1948, and in that conference it was decided that the Governments may take over the money that the Local Bodies have with them under this head. Accordingly Pakistan acknowledged to have taken over 75 lakhs and the East Punjab Government 47 lakhs. Negotiations were being carried on in this respect when the problem of devaluation cropped up and the negotiations were held up.

श्री सिधवा : सी०और डी० के बारे में गवर्नमेन्ट क्या करना चाहती है ?

Shri Sidhva: What the Government propose to do in respect of parts (c) and (d) of the question?

مولانا آزاد : ایجوکیشن منسٹری نے یہ دیکھ کر کہ ٹیچروں کی تکلیف بڑھتی جاتی ہے یہ فیصلہ کیا کہ ۴۷ لاکھ روپیہ جو مسلم ایمپلائے کا ایسٹ پنجاب گورنمنٹ کے قبضہ میں ہے وہ ویسٹ پاکستان سے آئے ہوئے ٹیچروں میں تقسیم کیا جائے۔ اس طرح پچاس فی صدی رقم انہیں مل جائیگی۔ پہلی مئی سے تقسیم کا کام شروع ہو جائیگا۔

Maulana Azad: The Ministry of Education on seeing the plight of the teachers increasing day by day decided that the sum of Rs. 47 lacs left by the Muslim employees and now in possession of the East Punjab Government may be distributed among the displaced teachers from West Pakistan. So in this way they would get 50 per cent. of their money. The disbursement of this money would begin from 1st May.

श्री सिधवा : मैं क्या यह समझ सकता हूँ कि इस में वेस्ट पंजाब और सिन्ध से जो टीचर आए हैं उन को भी पहली मई से दी जायगी ?

Shri Sidhva: May I take it that the displaced teachers from West Punjab and Sind also would be given money from 1st May?

مولانا آزاد : اس رقم میں سے سندھ اور شمال مغربی سرحدی صوبہ کے مدرسوں کو بھی دیا جا سکتا ہے کیونکہ یہ رقم مشرقی پنجاب کے مہاجرین مسلمانوں کے پروویڈنٹ فنڈ سے تعلق رکھتی ہے۔ اس لئے انہیں مدرسوں کو دی جا سکتی ہے جو مغربی پنجاب سے آئے ہیں۔

Maulana Azad: The teachers from Sind and N.W.F.P. cannot be paid out of this amount because this amount represents the Provident Funds of the Muslim Evacuees from East Punjab and can only be paid to the teachers who have come from West Punjab.

کیانی جی - ایس - مسافر : کیا گورنمنٹ اس بات پر غور کر سکتی ہے کہ ضرورت مند شہنارتھی ٹیچروں کو ان کے پروویڈنٹ فنڈ میں سے قرضے کے طور پر کچھ رقم دی جائے گی ؟

Giani G. S. Musafir: Can the Government take this fact into consideration that the needy refugee teachers may be granted loans from their Provident Funds?

مولانا آزاد : جیسا کہ میں نے ابھی کہا ہم پچاس لاکھ روپیہ میں سے دے رہے ہیں۔ گورنمنٹ کی برابر یہ کوشش رہی ہے اور دھیگی کہ ان لوگوں کی مدد کے لئے جو کچھ کر سکتی ہے کرے۔

Maulana Azad: As I just said we are disbursing 50 per cent. of their money out of the 47 lakhs. Government have always been trying and would go on trying to give them as much help as possible.

لالا अचिन्त राम : क्या गवर्नमेन्ट को मालूम है कि क्या ऐसे कुछ टीचर्स हैं जो रिटायर हो चुके हैं और माली हालत खराब होने की वजह से फिर गवर्नमेन्ट सर्विस में रख लिए गए हैं ?

Lala Achint Ram: Are the Government aware of the fact that there are certain teachers who have retired but have again been taken into Government service due to their bad pecuniary conditions?

مولانا آزاد : ہاں ایسی کوشش ہی گئی مگر یہ ظاہر ہے کہ اس طرح کا انتظام ایک خاص حد تک ہی کیا جا سکتا ہے۔

Maulana Azad: Yes, this has been done, but it is clear that such arrangements can be made to a limited extent only.

सरदार बी. एस. मान : जो टीचर्स इस वक्त मशरिकी बंगाल से आ रहे हैं उन के ऊपर भी क्या यह चीज़ लागू होगी ?

Sardar B. S. Man: Will this concession be available to those teachers also who are coming from East Bengal?

مولانا آزاد : نہیں یہ صرف وسترن پاکستان کے لئے ہے۔

Maulana Azad: No, this is meant only for persons from West Pakistan.

LOAN TO STEEL CORPORATION (F BENGAL

*1169. **Shri Sidhva:** (a) Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state whether the Government of India have paid any loan to the Steel Corporation of Bengal?

(b) If so, for what purpose, for what amount and under what condition has it been given?

(c) What is the security obtained for such loan, if given?

The Minister of Finance (Dr. Matthai): (a) Government have decided to grant a loan of Rs. 3½ crores to the Steel Corporation of Bengal and of Rs. 1½ crores to the Indian Iron and Steel Company both of which are under the same management and control. Nothing has so far been paid to the Steel Corporation of Bengal, but a sum of Rs. 70 lakhs has been paid to the Indian Iron and Steel Company as the first instalment of the proposed loan.

(b) and (c). The loan has been granted to enable the companies to undertake renewals and replacements of machinery and to expand their existing production. The terms and conditions governing the loan are (i) interest at 4½ per cent. per annum payable half-yearly commencing from 1st July, 1950, (ii) repayment of loan to be by instalments commencing from 1953 and to be completed by 1958, and (iii) the loan to be secured by the two companies mortgaging to Government their existing assets and all the assets to be created by them out of the proposed loan.

Shri Sidhva: Sir, may I know what is the capital investment of these concerns to whom loans have been given, and what is their financial position to-day which has made them unable to subscribe the capital themselves but has made them to ask for loan from Government?

Dr. Matthai: I will first take the second part of the hon. Member's question. It is very difficult at present, in view of the stagnation in the investment market even for companies of first-class standing to be able to raise loans to any considerable extent.

As regards the extent of the assets, the amount has been secured by assets which have a depreciated value which is considerably in excess of the loan that is likely to be advanced by Government.

Shri Sidhva: What is the present value of the concerns? I mean the market value?

Dr. Matthai: I am not able to give the market value; but I can give the hon. Member the book value, less depreciation so far made on it, which I think amounts to about Rs. 16 crores.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether Government have the first charge on the title of the mortgages of the companies?

Dr. Matthai: There are certain existing encumbrances, but leaving out the existing encumbrances, I take the value of the assets which will be mortgaged to Government, will be about eleven to twelve crores.

Shri Chaliha: What is the percentage of Indian shares in these companies?

Dr. Matthai: I am not in a position to answer that straightaway.

Pandit Kunzru: May I know why Government have given a loan to the companies concerned for renewals and replacements? Is it not the duty of these companies to provide for these things out of their own pockets?

Dr. Matthai: The answer to that question is, as the hon. Member knows, the depreciation is set aside on the original book value of the assets, and replacement now is very much more expensive.

Shri Raj Bahadur: What is the extent of the burden of the existing encumbrances?

Dr. Matthai: As I said, it is somewhere about Rs. 4 crores.

Shri Ethirajulu Naidu: Is this part of the scheme to increase the output of steel in this country?

Dr. Matthai: Yes, it is expected that these replacements and renewals will increase the total output to somewhere about 2,00,000 tons.

Dr. Deshmukh: How much loans did these companies actually ask for and what proportion has been sanctioned by Government?

Dr. Matthal: My own impression is that it is roughly about the amount that they asked for; but I am not quite certain.

Sardar B. S. Man: What dividend was declared by the Steel Corporation of Bengal last year?

Dr. Matthal: I am not able to give an answer straight off.

Shri M. V. Rama Rao: May I know whether Government have the actuarial values of the assets of these companies?

Dr. Matthal: Frankly, I do not understand what actuarial value of the assets means.

Mr. Speaker: He means expert valuation. Actuarial is for insurance purposes. He means the values of the assets, machines and buildings.

Dr. Matthal: Value of the assets for what purpose?

Mr. Speaker: For the purpose of advancing the loans.

Shri M. V. Rama Rao: For the purpose of ascertaining their value.

Dr. Matthal: Sir, I have given the answer.

Shri Sidhva: What is the reserve fund of these companies, if they have got any?

Dr. Matthal: I have not got the figures here.

MR. DESHMUKH'S VIEWS RE DEALS WITH AMERICAN CAPITALISTS

*1170. **Shri Sidhva:** (a) Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state whether Mr. Chintaman Deshmukh had returned from America and placed his views regarding several deals pending for settlement before the Government of India?

(b) If so, what report has he given regarding industrial concerns to be opened and whether any investments from U.S. are forthcoming as a result of his negotiations with American Capitalists and Industrialists?

The Minister of Finance (Dr. Matthal): (a) and (b). Mr. Deshmukh did not hold discussions in America for the purpose of facilitating the establishment of individual industrial concerns in India by American capitalists. He was asked to take the opportunity during his stay in the U.S.A. of ascertaining generally the attitude of American investors towards investment in India, and the difficulties which were encountered in promoting investment in the country.

Shri Sidhva: What results had materialized out of these discussions that took place? Has any report been given to the Government by Mr. Chintaman Deshmukh?

Dr. Matthal: The discussions, that Mr. Chintaman Deshmukh had, had no reference to any specific proposal. As a matter of fact, Mr. Deshmukh was there, as the hon. Member knows, during the visit of the Prime Minister so that in any general discussion that the Prime Minister had with business interests, it was thought advisable that Mr. Chintaman Deshmukh with his financial experience, should be there to advise him.

Shri Sidhva: Did he see any persons who wanted to interest themselves in India for industrial purposes? If so, whom did he see and what were the results?

Dr. Matthai: He had general discussions with business people but there was no question of discussing any specific proposal with any particular group of businessmen.

Dr. Deshmukh: May I know if Mr. Chintaman Deshmukh had communicated formally or informally any of his views on the subject-matter of the question to the hon. the Finance Minister?

Dr. Matthai: Mr. Deshmukh sent me a report conveying his general impressions regarding the attitude of private investors in America towards Indian concerns.

Shri Barman: What are the conditions which the American capitalists wanted for investment?

Dr. Matthai: They have their ideas as to what exactly should be the suitable climate for investments in India.

Shri Sidhva: What is the nature of the report?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. Next question.

FEDERAL LIBRARY IN NEW DELHI

*1171. **Seth Govind Das:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state whether it is proposed to set up a federal library at the capital of India for purposes of research and education like the one in Calcutta?

مستتر آف ایجوکیشن (مولانا آزاد) : ہاں ایک سنٹرل ریفرنس لائبریری کھولنے کی اسکیم گورنمنٹ کے سامنے آچکی ہے جس کے ساتھ ایک کاپی رائٹ سیکشن بھی ہوگا۔ جو اکیڈمی کے کام پر سوچ و چار کرنے کے لئے بتھائی گئی تھی ابھی تک اس نے اپنا کام پورا نہیں کیا ہے۔

The Minister of Education (Maulana Azad): Yes. Government have before them a Scheme for establishing a Central Reference Library in Delhi with a Copyright Section attached to it. The Expert Committee appointed to work out the details thereof has not yet completed its deliberations.

سٹھگوویند داس : کولکتہ کی جو نیشنل لائبریری ہے اس کی بھی پوسٹکوں کے لیے اس لائبریری کے لیے منگوانے پر کیا گورنمنٹ کا خیال ہے ؟

Seth Govind Das: Are the Government thinking of transferring the books of the National Library of Calcutta also to this Library?

مولانا آزاد : نہیں یہ اپنی جگہ ایک مستقل اسکیم ہے — اس کا مقصد یہ ہے کہ دلی میں ایک لائبریری کھولی جائے۔

Maulana Azad: No, this is a self-contained and separate scheme altogether. The object of this scheme is to start a Library at Delhi.

सेठ गोविन्द दास : जो विशेषज्ञों की कमेटी इस सम्बन्ध में बनी है उस का काम क्या शुरू हो गया है ? और अगर शुरू हो गया है तो उस की सिफारिशें कब तक गवर्नमेंट के पास आ जायेंगी ?

Seth Govind Das: Has the Committee of the Experts constituted for this purpose started its deliberations? And if so, when the recommendations would be received by the Government?

मोला आज़ाद : اس کمیٹہ کا ابھی جنوری ۱۹۵۰ء میں ایک جلسہ ہوا تھا لیکن انہوں نے ابھی تک اپنی سفارشیوں ترتیب نہیں دی ہیں -

Maulana Azad: A meeting of this Committee was held in January 1950, but as yet the Committee has not formulated its recommendations.

सेठ गोविन्द दास : तो कब तक उन की सिफारिशें आजाने की उम्मीद की जा सकती है ? क्या गवर्नमेंट ने कोई टाइम दिया है कि कब तक आ जानी चाहियें ?

Seth Govind Das: When the recommendations should be expected? Have the Government fixed any time limit for the submission of the recommendations?

मोला आज़ाद : نہیں کوئی خاص ٹائم نہیں دیا گیا ہے — امید کی جاتی ہے کہ جونہی ان کا کام ختم ہو جائیگا وہ اپنی سفارشیوں پیش کر دیں گے -

Maulana Azad: No, no time limit has been fixed. It is expected that no sooner the deliberations would finish the Committee would submit its recommendations.

Dr. Deshmukh: May I know if this Library will be opened in the present Capital of India or in the future Capital of India?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

श्री भट्ट : क्या पुस्तकालय इसी साल में खुल जायगा ?

Shri Bhatt: Will the Library be opened in this very year?

मोला आज़ाद : یہ تو اس پر موقوف ہے کہ گورنمنٹ کی فائنل حالت کہاں تک اجازت دیتی ہے -

Maulana Azad: This all depends upon the extent to which the financial position of the Government permits.

श्री किशोरीमोहन त्रिपाठी : दिल्ली में जो पुस्तकालय खोलने की योजना प्रस्तुत की गई है, उस पर कितनी रकम खर्च की जायगी ?

Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi: What amount of money would be spent on the scheme that has been drawn up for starting a Library at Delhi?

مولانا آزاد : ابھی کسی خاص رقم کا فیصلہ نہیں ہوا ہے — جو اکسپرت کمیٹی
بتھائی گئی ہے اس کی سفارشاتیں جب گورنمنٹ کو مل جائیں گی ، تو ان باتوں کا
فیصلہ ہو سکتا ہے -

Maulana Azad: No amount of money has been fixed for this purpose as yet. A decision in this connection would be made when the report of Expert Committee set up for this purpose is received.

श्री राज बहादुर : यह विशेषज्ञों की समिति कब स्थापित की गई थी ?

Shri Raj Bahadur: When was this Committee of Experts set up?

مولانا آزاد : یہ کمیٹی ۵ نومبر ۱۹۴۷ء کو بتھائی گئی تھی -

Maulana Azad: This committee was set up on 5th November, 1947.

श्री राज बहादुर : क्या मैं कारण जान सकता हूँ कि ५ नवम्बर १९४७ से
२५ जनवरी १९५० तक इस की बैठक क्यों नहीं हुई ?

Shri Raj Bahadur: May I know the reason why no meeting of this committee was convened from 5th November 1947 to 25th January 1950?

مولانا آزاد : ہمیں کمیٹی کے ممبروں سے امید کرنی چاہئے کہ وہ جلد سے
جلد اپنا کام پورا کر دیں گے — میں آنریبل ممبر کی توجہ اس صورت حال کی طرف
دلاؤں گا کہ جو فیڈانڈیشنل مشکلات اس وقت گورنمنٹ کو گھبرایے ہوئی ہیں ، انہیں
دیکھتے ہوئے بہت کم اس کی امید کی جا سکتی ہے کہ اس طرح کے کاموں کے لئے
فوراً روپیہ نکالا جائے - فرض کیجیے ، کمیٹی کی رپورٹ ہمیں آج مل جائے ، لیکن
لائبریری کے لئے ہم روپیہ آج نہیں نکال سکیں گے -

Maulana Azad: We should expect that the members of the Committee would finish their work at the earliest. I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Member towards the fact that taking into consideration the financial difficulties that are embarrassing the Government, very little hopes can be entertained that money for such things could be found immediately. Suppose we get the report of the Committee today, yet still we would not be able to find money for this Library immediately.

گھانی جی - ایس - مسافر : اس کمیٹی کے کون کون ممبر ہیں ؟

Ghani G. S. Musafir: Who are the members of this Committee?

مولانا آزاد : یہ ۶ ممبروں کی کمیٹی ہے :

(۱) ایجوکیشنل ایڈوائزر، گورنمنٹ آف انڈیا - چیرمین

(۲) ڈاکٹر ایس - این - سہن و ڈائریکٹر آف آرکھوز

(۳) ڈاکٹر پی - این - جوشی و ڈائریکٹر آف آرکھوز، گورنمنٹ آف بہاری -

(۴) ڈاکٹر ایس - آر - دیکھا ہن و دہلی یونیورسٹی -

(۵) پروفیسر قی - ایس - کٹھوری و سکریٹری و نیشنل انسٹیٹیوٹ آف

سائنس -

(۶) لائبریری، نیشنل لائبریری، کلکتہ -

Maulana Azad: This Committee has six members:

1. Educational Adviser, Government of India—*Chairman*.
2. Dr. S. N. Sen, Director of Archives.
3. Dr. P. N. Joshi, Director of Archives, Government of Bombay.
4. Dr. S. B. Ranganathan, Delhi University.
5. Prof. D. S. Kothari, Secretary, National Institute of Science.
6. Librarian, National Library, Calcutta.

GRANTS TO UNIVERSITIES

*1172. **Seth Govind Das:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to lay on the Table of the House a statement showing the amounts of grant given to various universities and educational institutions for the year 1950-51, and state whether any provision has been made to provide Chairs for Hindi where none exists at present?

منسٹر آف ایجوکیشن (مولانا آزاد) : ایک اسٹیٹ منٹ ہاوس کی تہیل پر رکھدیا جاتا ہے۔ [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 4.] — اس سے معلوم ہو جائیگا کہ ۱۹۴۸-۱۹۴۹ء اور سنہ ۱۹۴۹-۵۰ء میں کتنی گرانٹ ایجوکیشنل انسٹیٹیوٹوں کو دی گئی ہے۔ اور ۵۱ - ۱۹۵۰ء کے لئے کتنی گرانٹ رکھی گئی ہے۔ یونیورسٹیوں میں کسی خاص سبجکٹ کے لئے چہر قائم کونا ایسا کام نہیں ہے جس کے لئے سنٹرل گورنمنٹ سے خاص گرانٹ دی جاتی ہو۔

آزریہں ممبر کی وافہیت کے لئے یہ بات میں بتلا دینا چاہتا ہوں کہ جہاں تک ہندی زبان کو پھیلانے اور اسکی تعلیم کو ترقی دینے کا تعلق ہے ایجوکیشن منسٹری کے سامنے چند تجویزیں آچکی تھیں۔ سنٹرل اتوریٹی بورڈ آف ایجوکیشن کا جو خاص اجلاس ۲۲ اپریل کو ہونے والا ہے، وہ ان تجویزوں پر فور کریگا، اور امید کن جاتی ہے کہ اس کے بعد ہم ان تجویزوں کو عملی جامہ پہنا سکیں گے۔

The Minister of Education (Maulana Azad): A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 4.] This would show the amounts of grants sanctioned by this Ministry to the various educational institutions for 1948-49 and 1949-50. It also shows the budget provisions for 1950-51. Establishment of special Chairs in various Universities for particular subjects

is not such a thing for which specific grants may normally be made by the Government.

For the information of the hon. Member I wish to say that as far as the question of spreading and promotion of learning of Hindi language is concerned the Ministry of Education has received some suggestions in this respect. The special meeting of the Central Advisory Board of Education that is to be held on 22nd April will take these suggestions into consideration and it is expected that after this we would be able to give a practical shape to these suggestions.

सेठ गोविन्द दास : अब चूंकि हिन्दी राष्ट्रभाषा हो गई है, इस लिए जहां तक हिन्दी की चेअर्स का मामला है वहां तक क्या गवर्नमेंट इस बात पर कोई विचार कर रही है कि जिन राज्यों में हिन्दी नहीं बोली जाती, खास कर उन राज्यों की युनिवर्सिटियों में इस तरह की हिन्दी की चेअर्स स्थापित की जायें और उस को गवर्नमेंट आफ इंडिया मदद दे ?

Seth Govind Das: As Hindi has now become the National language then so far as the founding of Chairs for Hindi are concerned are the Government taking this proposal into consideration that in those States where Hindi is not generally spoken and specially in the Universities of such States, Chairs for Hindi be founded and the Government should give them help?

مولانا آزاد : یہ ساری باتیں ایجوکیشن منسٹری کے سامنے موجود ہیں - اور انہیں پر اڈوائزری بورڈ کے ایلندہ اجلاس کو توجہ دلائی جائیگی ۔

Maulana Azad: All these matters are before the Ministry of Education, and these very things would be brought to the notice of the Advisory Board at its next meeting.

सेठ गोविन्द दास : जिन शिक्षा सम्बन्धी संस्थाओं को सरकार ने मदद दी है उन में क्या हरद्वार का गुरुकुल कांगड़ी, काशी विद्यापीठ और बोलपुर का शान्ति निकेतन भी शामिल हैं ?

Seth Govind Das: Are Gurukul Kangri of Hardwar, Kashi Vidyapith and Shanti Niketan, of Bolpur among the educational institutions whom the Government have given help?

مولانا آزاد : آنریبل ممبر اگر اسٹیٹمنٹ کو دیکھنے کی تکلیف کریں گے تو یہ باتیں معلوم ہو جائیں گی - گورنرکل ہردوار کو مدد دی گئی ہے -

Maulana Azad: If the hon. Member would take the trouble of going through the Statement then he would come to know of these things. Help has been given to Gurukul Hardwar.

सेठ गोविन्द दास : और काशी विद्यापीठ को ?

Seth Govind Das: And to Kashi Vidyapith?

مولانا آزاد : نہیں -

Maulana Azad: No.

CHARITABLE AND SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS EXEMPTED FROM INCOME TAX

***1173. Dr. M. M. Das:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state the number of the charitable and Scientific Research Institutions in India on whose income, no income tax is charged?

The Minister of Finance (Dr. Matthai): *Charitable Institutions.*—The number is not available as they are not obliged to send in returns of income.

Scientific Research Institutes.—116 have been exempted under the provisions of Section 10(2)(xiii) of the Income-tax Act.

Dr. M. M. Das: Am I to understand that no charitable institution has been exempted from income-tax? I did not follow the hon. Minister's reply.

Dr. Matthai: I think the hon. Member's question refers to charitable institutions whose income is exempt from income-tax. As far as that is concerned, we have not got returns because all charitable institutions which come within the Act are automatically exempted but I thought probably behind the hon. Member's question was really this query regarding the institutions in respect of which subscriptions are exempted from income-tax. For that I have got certain figures.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know whether Government audits the accounts of institutions which are exempted from income-tax?

Dr. Matthai: Properly audited certificates are insisted upon.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know whether the hospitals are included in this list?

Dr. Matthai: I think so. The terms of the section are certainly wide enough for that purpose.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know the number of scientific institutions that are managed by religious or non-official bodies?

Dr. Matthai: I have no information.

CLAIMS ON BEHALF OF CALCUTTA AIR CRASH VICTIMS

***1174. Dr. M. M. Das:** (a) Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state whether any claims have been received by the Defence Department on behalf of the victims of the Calcutta Air Crash in November last?

(b) If so, what is the decision of the Government about the matter?

The Minister of Defence (Sardar Baldev Singh): (a) Yes.

(b) Decisions will be taken after receipt of the report of the Enquiry Committee appointed by Government to investigate the matter.

Dr. M. M. Das: Am I to understand, Sir, that the Enquiry Committee has not completed their investigation and no report is available up till now?

Sardar Baldev Singh: The Enquiry Committee have not finished their deliberations as yet, and no report has been received.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know whether any application for compensation has been filed with the Government?

Sardar Baldev Singh: The number of applications received by the Government is 26.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know whether the owners of the buildings that were damaged in this accident have made any applications to the Government?

Sardar Baldev Singh: It is not possible for me to say whether any of the owners of the buildings have submitted their claims for compensation, but the total number of applications for compensation is 26.

Shri Sidhya: May I know what is the cause of the delay, how many witnesses have been examined and how many still remain to be examined?

Sardar Baldev Singh: The report has not yet been received, but I may inform the House that I expect to get the report some time in April.

Shri Kamath: As a result of the enquiry into this Calcutta air crash, have any orders been issued as regards flying in formation over big cities?

Sardar Baldev Singh: That is the general instruction. Normally the Air Force do not fly in formation over big cities but the House will realise that it is difficult occasionally to avoid it.

Shri Kamath: Were any instructions issued after the accident?

Sardar Baldev Singh: These are the general instructions, but in certain cases this cannot be avoided. As far as the general instructions go, they are not to fly in formation over big cities.

BANIHAL PASS

*1175. **Shri B. K. Das:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) Whether it is a fact that the task of keeping the Banihal Pass in Kashmir cleared of snow for the purpose of unhampered traffic has been entrusted to the Engineering Department of the Military;

(b) if so, the expenses in respect of maintaining the staff and of the equipments; and

(c) whether the civil traffic will be subjected to any terminal tax on that account?

The Minister of Defence (Sardar Baldev Singh): (a) Yes.

(b) The expenditure incurred on snow clearance has so far amounted to about Rs. 1,44,000 in 1949-50.

(c) No.

Shri B. K. Das: Which Government has taken the responsibility for maintaining this, is it the Kashmir Government or the Central Government?

Sardar Baldev Singh: This Government has paid the money.

Shri B. K. Das: I mean for maintaining this road?

Sardar Baldev Singh: The maintenance is done by the Kashmir Government. I am not quite certain, but a certain portion of the cost is met by us. I am not definite about it.

Shri Raj Bahadur: What is the strength of the staff?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. Next question.

ADVANCES TO GOVERNMENT SERVANTS FOR PURCHASE OF MOTOR CARS

*1176. **Sardar Hukam Singh:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state the total amount advanced to Government servants for purchase of motor cars in the current financial year?

The Minister of Finance (Dr. Matthal): During the first nine months of the current financial year a total sum of Rs. 20.05 lakhs approximately has been advanced.

Sardar Hukam Singh: What is the lowest salary which confers entitlement for this allowance?

Dr. Matthal: I do not know whether there is any salary limit, but the formula that we employ, is that the amount advanced is up to five months' pay subject to a maximum of Rs. 10,000 at present.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Is any preference given to low-paid officers because they are in greater need of this allowance?

Dr. Matthal: Not so far as I know.

Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi: What is the interest charged on such advances?

Dr. Matthal: It is the current borrowing rate, roughly about three per cent.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether any loan is given to clerks and peons for the purchase of bicycles?

Dr. Matthal: Yes.

Shri Kamath: May I know whether the recovery instalments bear any proportion to the salary of the officer and, if so, what is the proportion?

Dr. Matthal: The amount is recovered in 48 monthly instalments.

Shri M. V. Rama Rao: What is the number of cars imported in the current financial year?

Dr. Matthal: That is a question that must be directed to the hon. the Commerce Minister.

PERSONS ARRESTED IN JULY, 1949 IN SABZI MANDI, DELHI

*1177. **Sardar Hukam Singh:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of citizens arrested on 3rd July, 1949 under Section 110(F), Cr.P.C. by the Delhi Police in connection with some trouble in Sabzi Mandi;

(b) the number of persons against whom prosecutions were launched in courts; and

(c) the result of these prosecutions?

The Minister of Home Affairs and the States (Sardar Patel): (a) 112.

(b) and (c). All the 112 persons were proceeded against under Section 110(f), Criminal Procedure Code. Out of these, 25 were bound over to be of good behaviour, and 64 discharged. Cases against 23 are pending.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Were any of those 112 persons arrested, prosecuted for particular offences under the Criminal Procedure Code for causing hurt or some such thing?

Sardar Patel: Yes, under 110(f) of the Criminal Procedure Code.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Was it for causing injuries?

Sardar Patel: The hon. Member may refer to Section 110(f) of the C.P.C.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Was it rioting or what is the offence?

Sardar Patel: They have been bound for good behaviour.

Sardar Hukam Singh: May I know whether many of them are double graduates, teachers and so on, and have been detained for a very long time in custody, because they could not afford to obtain bails, which were to the amount of Rs. 10,000 and Rs. 15,000?

Mr. Speaker: I think it is a matter for the Magistrates who have decided.

Dr. Deshmukh: But the Magistrates cannot come here to answer this question.

Mr. Speaker: That is why the question cannot be put here.

EXPORT DUTY ON PEPPER AND TEA IN TRAVANCORE-COCHIN UNION

*1178. **Shri Alexander:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state the amount of duty obtained by the Government of India from (i) pepper and (ii) tea exported from Travancore-Cochin for the period from July, 1949 to January, 1950?

The Minister of Finance (Dr. Matthal): Pepper Rs. 18,65,533 and tea Rs. 51,82,553.

Shri Alexander: May I know whether, as is the case with jute, it is the intention of the Government to allot a portion of the amount realised to the pepper-producing States? If not, why not?

Dr. Matthal: I think the hon. Member is under a misapprehension. This question is with regard to the amount of revenue received during the current year from July 1949. The question of the Government of India receiving revenues from the States does not arise till the 1st April, so that the question does not justify this supplementary question.

Shri Chaliha: May I know the amount of export duty realised from tea produced in Assam?

Dr. Matthal: This is a question which I answered a few weeks ago.

Shri Alexander: May I know who is affected by this duty? Is it the producer or the consumer? Is it a fact that only the middlemen are affected by this?

Dr. Matthal: That is an intricate question of economics which I am not in a position to answer.

Mr. Speaker: It is more or less a matter of opinion also.

BOYCOTT OF A.I.R. BY HINDI POETS AND WRITERS

*1179. **Prof. S. N. Mishra:** Will the Minister of **Information and Broadcasting** be pleased to state:

(a) whether a boycott of the All India Radio by a large number of Hindi Poets, Writers and Scholars has been continuing for some time past; and

(b) if so, reasons therefor and the Government's attitude thereto?

The Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting (Shri Diwakar): (a) No, Sir. Some Hindi writers, however, abstained from taking part in All India Radio's programmes for some time.

(b) Does not arise.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know if the attention of the Government has been drawn to the resolution passed by the All India *Hindi Sahitya Sammelan* at its Hyderabad session in this regard and, if so, what is the attitude of the Government to that?

Shri Diwakar: The attention of the Government has been drawn to that resolution. The Government regrets the resolution.

सेठ गोविन्द दास : क्या गवर्नमेंट ने उस रिजोल्यूशन पर कोई विचार किया या केवल इस वक्त गवर्नमेंट अपनी ओपिनियन दे रही है कि उस को उस रिजोल्यूशन पर अफसोस है ?

Seth Govind Das: Did the Government take the resolution into consideration or the Government is now giving her opinion that she regrets the resolution?

श्री दिवाकर : अफसोस करने के लिए जितना विचार करना चाहिए, उतना तो अवश्य किया है ।

Shri Diwakar: Whatever consideration was necessary for expressing regret has surely been done.

सेठ गोविन्द दास . क्या गवर्नमेंट इस बात को मंजूर नहीं करती कि हिन्दी साहित्य सम्मेलन या और किसी भी सार्वजनिक संस्था को इस तरह का रिजोल्यूशन पास करने का पूरा अधिकार है ?

Seth Govind Das: Do the Government not accept the fact that *Hindi Sahitya Sammelan* or any other public institution is fully authorized to pass such a resolution?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. It is not a question.

Shri Kamath: Did the Hindi writers to whom the Minister made a reference abstain from taking part in these programmes without assigning any reasons or have they assigned any reasons?

Shri Diwakar: The reason was that they were dissatisfied with some Hindi programmes of the A.I.R.

Shri Raj Bahadur: What is the number of such writers who have abstained from taking part in these programmes?

Shri Diwakar: I do not know exactly.

کہانی جی - ایس - مسافر : کیا ہندی کا پروگرام دیتے وقت صرف آرٹسٹ کی قابلیت کا ہی خیال رکھا جاتا ہے یا یہ خیال بھی رکھا جاتا ہے کہ وہ کس اسٹیٹ کا رہنے والا ہے ؟

Giani G. S. Musafir: Are the qualifications only of the artist taken into consideration at the time of allotting Hindi programmes or this fact also is taken into consideration as to which State the said artist belongs?

श्री दिवाकर : काबलियत देखी जाती है ।

Shri Diwakar: Only qualifications are taken into consideration.

सेठ गोविन्ददास : हिन्दी प्रोग्रामों के सम्बन्ध में जो शिकायत की गई है उस पर क्या गवर्नमेंट कोई विचार कर रही है ?

Seth Govind Das: Are the Government taking into consideration the complaints that have been made about the Hindi programmes?

श्री दिवाकर : खाली विचार ही नहीं उस पर कार्यक्रम भी जारी है । •

Shri Diwakar: They are not simply taken into consideration only but are also being acted upon?

Shri S. N. Mahtha: Are Government aware of a statement made by 26 Members of the Bihar Legislature on this question?

Shri Diwakar: I am not aware.

REMITTANCES BETWEEN PAKISTAN AND INDIA

*1180. **Sardar Hukam Singh:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether there have been any remittances, since devaluation, between the Pakistan State of Bahawalpur and India through postal money orders as pensions for displaced persons;

(b) whether any remittances were made since the 15th August, 1947 to Pakistan or her Provinces from India or the Indian States as pensions for persons who had migrated after the 15th August, 1947; and .

(c) if so, what was the amount that was remitted monthly or quarterly?

The Minister of Finance (Dr. Matthal): (a) Postal money order service with Pakistan has been under suspension since devaluation.

(b) and (c). The rules permit the Treasury Officer to make payment of pension by Money Order at the option and expense of the pensioner if the

pension does not exceed Rs. 50 a month. As pensions are disbursed by various treasury officers throughout the country, it is not possible to collect the information required without undue labour.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Has India been remitting the pensions to Pakistan nationals or has India also stopped payment since de-valuation?

Dr. Matthal: We are not sending any postal money orders as far as I know.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Will Government consider the advisability of paying at least a part of the amount to our nationals who are here as adjustment of the dues that are payable to these nationals?

Mr. Speaker: That is a suggestion for action. Next question.

HOMOEOPATHIC SYSTEM OF MEDICINE

*1181. **Shri S. C. Samanta:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state the names of States which have (i) enacted laws regarding the Homoeopathic system of Medicine, (ii) formed Homoeopathic State faculties, and (iii) registered Homoeopathic practitioners?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (i) Travancore, (ii) West Bengal, and (iii) West Bengal and Travancore.

Shri S. C. Samanta: Is the Homoeopathic system of medicine controlled by law in the United Kingdom, the United States of America, Brazil, Mexico and other countries?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. I do not think I can allow that question.

Shri S. C. Samanta: Are there any such institutions in India?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: Not under the control of Government.

Shri S. C. Samanta: Do Government propose to place its view on Homoeopathy before Parliament after ascertaining the opinions of the various States?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: The whole report of the Enquiry Committee that was formed to look into the question of Homoeopathy is under consideration of Government and the Government of India is awaiting replies from the States.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know the number of practitioners in India with such qualifications?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: I would have to have notice of that question.

ASSAULT BY MILITARY PERSONNEL IN JUBBULPORE

*1182. **Shri Karnath:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to a news item appearing in the *Hitavada* (Nagpur), dated the 18th February, 1950 regarding alleged assault by military personnel;

(b) whether it is a fact that on or about 13th February, 1950 some military personnel occupied the Parlat tank rest house near Jubbulpore without the necessary permit;

(c) whether it is a fact that a civilian officer who arrived at the rest house subsequently with the requisite permit was abused, assaulted, and his son beaten and knocked down;

(d) whether the matter was reported to the army authorities; and

(e) whether an inquiry has been held and if so, with what result?

The Minister of Defence (Sardar Baldev Singh): (a) Yes.

(b) A party composed of five military officers and their families did go to the rest house for a picnic on the 12th February 1950. On arrival, the party approached the chowkidar who allowed them the use of the kitchen, the verandah and the compound.

(c) to (e). A case has been registered with the police. The matter is also being investigated by military authorities.

Shri Kamath: What is the name, rank and designation of the military officer who is alleged to have assaulted the civilian officer? What is the name, rank and designation of the victim of the alleged assault?

Sardar Baldev Singh: I fear I have not got the information. I can give the hon. Member this information if he wants.

Shri Kamath: When was the Court of Enquiry appointed?

Sardar Baldev Singh: I think immediately after. I have not got the date. I can get the date also.

Shri Kamath: Is it not a fact that though the civilian officer reported to the army authorities on the day of the incident, no Court of Enquiry was appointed till a long time afterwards?

Sardar Baldev Singh: I do not know what actually happened, whether a Court of Enquiry was formed immediately afterwards or whether it took some time. It is a fact that the matter has been reported to the police and also a Court of Enquiry has been instituted.

Shri Kamath: How long will it take for the Court of Enquiry to conclude its proceedings?

Sardar Baldev Singh: I am not in a position to give any exact date.

Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi: May I know whether the civilian officer reported to have been assaulted was on official tour when he was assaulted?

Sardar Baldev Singh: It is not possible for me to answer that.

Shri Kamath: Do the records show that the military officer with his party occupied the rest house without a permit which was necessary under the existing orders?

Mr. Speaker: I think all these questions should be the subject-matter of the police enquiry proceedings. We need not go into them at this stage. Next question.

DELAY IN PAYMENT OF PENSIONS BY ACCOUNTANT-GENERAL, U.P.

*1183. **Shri Gopinath Singh:** (a) Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state the approximate time that is taken in the Accountant General's Office of U.P. to prepare pension payment orders of retiring Government servants in Uttar Pradesh?

(b) Is it a fact that the time taken in the preparation and completion of these papers since August, 1947 is more than what it used to be formerly?

(c) What is the number of cases of retiring Government servants in U.P. who have not received their pension even after a year of their retirement?

The Minister of Finance (Dr. Matthal): (a) The time taken in each case depends upon the adequacy of the data furnished for the verification and admission of a claim. It would require an examination of all the claims received to state even the average time taken per claim.

(b) It is not possible to furnish the information without an elaborate investigation of the comparative statistics of the past and present pension cases.

(c) It is not possible to give accurate information regarding this without a reference to the U.P. Government as the number will depend upon the cases in the offices under the control of the U.P. Government apart from those in the office of the Accountant General.

Shri Gopinath Singh: Is it possible for the Government to so arrange the programme of the preparation of pension payment orders that a retiring Government servant may commence receiving his pension within three months from the date of his retirement?

Dr. Matthal: The general rule that we apply in these cases is that all the data required in regard to pension should be produced by the pensioner within six months of the date of retirement. In this particular case, as far as I am able to know, there has been a great deal of rush of work in connection with pensions in the U.P. Government. I believe there has been a large number of premature retirements and delay takes place very largely in the departmental offices of the U.P. Government. I am not blaming anybody for a moment for there is a great deal of pressure of work at present.

Shri Gopinath Singh: Can the Government arrange for the provision of relief pensions to be adjusted later?

Dr. Matthal: That question, may I suggest, does not really arise.

Mr. Speaker: He wants to follow it up logically. In fact he is arguing the point. He is making a suggestion for action.

FOREIGNERS DEPORTED FROM INDIA

*1184. **Lala Raj Kanwar:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state, country-wise, the number of Nationals of foreign countries deported from India during the last five years?

Appendix VI, annexe No. 5.]

The Minister of Home Affairs and the States (Sardar Patel): A statement giving the required information has been laid on the Table of the House. [See

Lala Raj Kanwar: May I know the total number of nationals of foreign countries deported from India since 15th August, 1947?

Sardar Patel: I cannot give the number.

Lala Raj Kanwar: May I know to which country the majority of the deportees belong?

Sardar Patel: Chinese.

Lala Raj Kanwar: What was their number?

Sardar Patel: 223 from China; 80 from Tibet; the rest are in small numbers; 22 were Goanese.

Shri Kamath: Are Britishers treated as foreigners at present by Government?

Sardar Patel: No.

PROPOSED ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY AND EXCAVATIONS

*1185. **Lala Raj Kanwar:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to lay on the Table of the House a list showing the important sites which are proposed to be archaeologically surveyed and excavated during the next five years and the amount proposed to be spent on each of them?

منسٹر آف ایجوکیشن (مولانا آزاد)۔ ارادہ کیا گیا ہے کہ آنے والے پانچ برسوں کے اندر راجستان یونین میں اڑکیہ الجکل سروے کا کام کیا جائے۔ راجاگرہیا اور ہستناپور میں کھدائی کا کام بھی ساملے رکھا گیا ہے۔

ان کاموں کے لئے جتنا روپیہ درکار ہوگا اسکا اندازہ کاموں کی حالت اور ضرورت دیکھ کر کیا جا سکتا ہے۔ ابھی کوئی تھیک تھیک رقم نہیں بتلائی جا سکتی۔

The Minister of Education (Maulana Azad): An archaeological survey of the Rajasthan Union for proto-historic sites and an excavation of Rajagriha and Hastinapura is proposed to be carried out during the next five years. The amount to be spent will depend on the requirements of each case and the staff available for the work.

सेठ गोविन्द दास: क्या माननीय मंत्री जी को यह बात याद है कि गये बार उन्होंने ने यह भी वायदा किया था कि मथुरा तथा अयोध्या में आगे की जो योजना बनाई जायगी, उस में खुदाई के काम की योजना भी रखी जायेगी।

Seth Govind Das: Does the hon. Minister recollect the fact that on the previous occasion he had made a promise that the schemes that would be drawn up for Mathura and Ayodhya would include projects for carrying out excavations also?

مولانا آزاد: صرف یہی نہیں؟ اس طرح کے اور بہت سے کام منسٹری کے سامنے ہیں لیکن کیا کیا جائے؟ کام کے لئے پہلا سوال روپیہ کا ہے مگر اسکی کوئی راہ کھلتی نظر نہیں آتی۔

Maulana Azad: Not only these but many other matters of this nature are before the Ministry, but what is to be done? The first problem for such things is of money, and I do not see any means of obtaining it.

श्री द्विवेदी : क्या सरकार के ध्यान में खजुराओं का नगर जो ज़मीन में पड़ा हुआ है , उस की खुदाई कराने का विचार है ?

Shri Dwivedi: Do the Government have in view the proposal of excavating the town of Khajuraho which is lying buried underground?

مولانا آزاد : کہاں ؟

Maulana Azad: Where?

श्री द्विवेदी : खजुराओं, जो गवर्नमेन्ट आफ इंडिया के आठ आने वाले टिकट पर नज़र आता है ।

Shri Dwivedi: Khajuraho, the picture of which is to be seen on the eight anna stamp of the Government of India.

Mr. Speaker: That is covered by the previous answer.

Dr. Deshmukh: May I know if the hon. Minister has given up all hope of discovering any hidden treasures in these excavations to meet the financial difficulties?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. Next question.

WORLD BANK LOAN FOR HYDERABAD

*1186. **Shri P. K. Ramiah:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state whether the Government of Hyderabad applied for a loan from the World Bank for construction of a dam across the River Godavari within the Hyderabad territory and whether the Government of India recommended the grant of the loan?

The Minister of Finance (Dr. Matthai): The Government of Hyderabad have submitted details of the Godavari Project to the Government of India and have asked whether assistance for the foreign exchange involved could be obtained by way of a loan from the International Bank.

The matter is under examination.

Shri P. K. Ramiah: May I know, Sir, whether the Government will be pleased to recommend the application for such a loan to the World Bank when any other State applies for such a loan?

Mr. Speaker: That will be hypothetical.

Shri B. K. Das: May I know whether negotiations regarding loans in respect of other dams have been concluded?

Dr. Matthai: There are negotiations about certain projects which are now going on between us and the Bank.

Shri B. K. Das: May I know what is the position about the D.V.C. loan?

Dr. Matthai: I think that is at present under discussion.

Shri Sidhya: What is the total amount of loan for this scheme?

Mr. Speaker: He said that negotiations have not been completed.

Shri Sidhva: For this loan that is required.

Mr. Speaker: Does he want to know the amount of the loan required by the Hyderabad State?

PRIVY PURSES OF RULERS

*1187. **Shri Nandkishore Das:** (a) Will the Minister of States be pleased to state whether the provision of Rs. 4.51 crores for privy purses of Indian Rulers as referred to on page 27 of White Paper on Budget, 1950-51 (Part A) includes privy purses payable to *ex-Rulers* of states which have merged in the provinces?

(b) What is the total amount of privy purses payable to *ex-Rulers* of states which have merged in the province of Orissa, stating the sum payable to each *ex-Ruler* of States separately?

The Minister of Home Affairs and the States (Sardar Patel): (a) Yes.

(b) The hon. Member's attention is invited to Appendix LIX of the White Paper on Indian States, recently placed before this House.

Shri Nandkishore Das: May I know whether these privy purses are subject to Income-tax?

Sardar Patel: No.

Shri Tyagi: On a point of order, Sir, may I know whether an hon. Member can be reading books in the House?

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

POOR HOMES IN CENTRALLY ADMINISTERED AREAS

*1190. **Shri Rathnaswamy:** (a) Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state how many Poor Homes are maintained by the Government in the Centrally Administered areas and in Delhi in particular?

(b) Have Government any specific scheme to tackle the beggar problem?

(c) Is any proposal of advising the States to adopt a uniform policy in regard to beggar problem under consideration?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) There is one Poor House in Delhi which is run by a society known as the 'Delhi Association for the care of Destitutes'. Government pay an annual grant-in-aid for running this Poor House and the dispensary attached to it. Information regarding other Centrally Administered Areas has been called for and will be furnished to the House on receipt.

(b) Apart from the relevant provisions of the Municipal Acts and the Poor House there is no other scheme. One of the best methods of discouraging begging is for people not to indulge in indiscriminate giving of alms.

(c) The matter is primarily the responsibility of the State Government.

Shri Rathnaswamy: Have Government taken any steps to investigate the causes that have led to increase in beggary, particularly in the Centrally-administered areas?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: Speaking for Delhi, the influx of refugees has led to the increase of beggars in Delhi.

Shri Rathnaswamy: Have Government any preventive measures, as against punitive measures, to eliminate this social evil?

Mr. Speaker: I think these are all suggestions.

Shri B. K. Das: What is the population in the Delhi Poor House?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: The Delhi Poor Home can accommodate three hundred beggars in the first instance.

Shri Kamath: In proportion to the population, are there more beggars and more poor folk in the Centrally-administered areas than in the States?

Shri Kamath: No answer, Sir?

Mr. Speaker: No answer need be given.

RECRUITMENT TO ALL-INDIA SERVICES

***1191. Shri Kamath:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in June, 1948, Government announced that there would be recruitment to the All-India Services, and a special Recruitment Board was set up for the purpose;

(b) whether many applications were received from the States (now part B states);

(c) whether subsequently, such applicants were declared ineligible; if so, when;

(d) whether a recent Press Note has stated that such disqualifications as were there formerly in respect of candidates from Part B States have been removed; and

(e) whether it was simultaneously announced that candidates who had applied in June, 1948 were not to apply again?

The Minister of Home Affairs and the States (Sardar Patel): (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) It was made clear from the beginning that they were eligible only for the Central Services.

(d) Yes.

(e) Yes.

INDIAN STATISTICAL INSTITUTE

***1192. Dr. Deshmukh:** (a) Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state the year in which the Indian Statistical Institute was established?

(b) Is it a private, Government or semi-Government Institute?

(c) What is the annual expenditure of the Institute since 1945 and what are the grants and donations given by the Central and State Governments since 1945 up-to-date?

(d) What is the total grant proposed to be given to the Institute in the year 1950-51?

(e) Is it proposed to take over the Institute under complete Government management if not already under such management?

(f) What are the sources of income of the Institute apart from grants given by the State and Central Government if any?

(g) Are there any proposals for the re-organization of the Institute?

ماسٽر آف ايجوڪيشن (مولانا آزاد) : (اے) سنہ ۱۹۳۲ء -

(بی) یہ ایک پرائیویٹ رجسٹرڈ باقی ہے -

(سی) ایک اسٹیٹمنٹ ہاوس کے ٹیبل پر رقم دیا جاتا ہے -

[See Appendix VI, annexure No. 6.]

(قی) ۳۰۰۰۰۰ -

(ای) کا جواب نہیں ہے -

(ایف) انسٹی ٹیوٹ کی بڑی آمدنی جس کے بھروسہ پر وہ چل رہا ہے سنٹرل اور اسٹیٹ گورنمنٹ کی گرانٹ ہے - کچھ مدد اُسے دوسرے ذریعوں سے بھی ملتی ہے جیسے ممبری ٹریننگ ممبری اور ایگزامینیشن کی فیس انوسٹمنٹ کا سود بعض سائنٹیفک باڈیز کی امداد -

(جی) سنہ ۱۹۳۸ء میں گورنمنٹ نے یہ بات منظور کی کہ انسٹی ٹیوٹ کو ایک بلاک گرانٹ ۵ لاکھ روپیہ سالانہ کی تین برس کیلئے دی جائے - مگر اس کے ساتھ یہ شرط لگا دی کہ انسٹی ٹیوٹ کو ایک خاص لائن پر ری آرگنائز کرنا چاہیئے اور ری آرگنائز کرنے کی تجویز مہن یہ بات بھی رکھی گئی تھی کہ انسٹی ٹیوٹ کی گورننگ باڈی و فائننس کمیٹی اور سلکشن بورڈ میں سنٹرل گورنمنٹ کا رپریزنٹیشن ہو - اس اسکیم کے مطابق کام کے ہونے کا ابھی تک انتظار کیا جا رہا ہے -

The Minister of Education (Maulana Azad): (a) 1932.

(b) It is a private body registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860.

(c) A statement giving the necessary information is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 6.]

(d) Rs. 4,50,000.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) The Institute mainly depends on Central and State grants. But other income is from membership fees, interest on investments, Training and Examination fees and contributions from certain scientific bodies.

(g) In 1948 the Government agreed to give a block of Rs. 5 lacs per annum for 3 years to the Institute on the condition that the Institute was reorganised on certain lines acceptable to Government. The proposals provided for the representation of the Central Government on the various bodies, viz., Governing body Finance Committee and selection committee of the Institute. The adoption of the scheme by the Institute is yet awaited.

डाक्टर देशमुख : क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि कितने विद्यार्थी फिलहाल इस में पढ़ते हैं और कितने विद्यार्थी आगे चल कर इस में पढ़ाई कर सकेंगे ?

Dr. Deshmukh: May I know how many students are studying here at present and how many would be able to study therein in future?

मौलाना आज़ाद : میں یہ تعداد ابھی نہیں بتا سکتا -

Maulana Azad: I cannot tell the number just now.

डाक्टर देशमुख : यह रीआर्गनाइजेशन कब तक पूरा होगा ? क्या इस के रीआर्गनाइजेशन की सब टर्म्स और कंडीशन्स तय हो चुकी हैं ?

Dr. Deshmukh: When will this reorganisation be completed? Have all the terms and conditions for its reorganisation been settled?

मौलाना आज़ाद : ہاں لیکن ہم ابھی انتظار کر رہے ہیں - انسٹیٹیوٹ کا آخری فیصلہ ابھی ہمارے پاس نہیں آیا ہے -

Maulana Azad: Yes, but we are just waiting. The final decision of the Institute has not yet been communicated to us.

श्री त्यागी : क्या यह इंस्टीट्यूट स्टेटिस्टिक्स के मजमून को पढ़ाता है या स्टेटिस्टिक्स को हासिल करके इकट्ठा करता है ?

Shri Tyagi: Does this Institute teach the subject of statistics or simply collects and compiles the statistical figures?

मौलाना आज़ाद : دونوں طرح کا کام کرتا ہے - ٹریننگ کا بھی اور شماروآمداد تیار کرنے کا بھی -

Maulana Azad: It does both these things. It imparts instruction as well as collects and compiles the statistics.

श्री त्यागी : क्या गवर्नमेन्ट कभी अपनी ज़रूरियात के मुताबिक उसके पास हिदायत भेजती है कि फ़र्ला २ मजमून पर ऐदाद व शुमार इकट्ठा किये जायें ?

Shri Tyagi: Do the Government according to its requirements ever send instructions that statistics on a particular subject be collected and compiled?

मौलाना आज़ाद : हाں -

Maulana Azad: Yes.

EXPENDITURE ON RESEARCH SECTION OF MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING

***1198. Dr. Deshmukh:** (a) Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting please state the year in which the Research Section of the Ministry was established?

(b) How much expenditure has so far been incurred on it and what are the important results achieved?

(c) To what extent has there been research in Television in this section?

(d) Is there any likelihood of the Research Section starting Television in India in the near future?

The Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting (Shri Diwakar): (a) The Research Department of All-India Radio was established in April 1936.

(b) The expenditure under 'Capital Heads' up to the end of 1948-49 is Rs. 65,265-9-1. The recurring expenditure of the Research Section of the Research Department for 1948-49 is approximately Rs. 1,15,000.

A statement giving in outline some of the researches undertaken by the Research Department is placed on the Table. [See Appendix VI annexure No. 7.]

(c) and (d). Not so far. It is hoped to undertake research in Television if and when funds become available for the purpose.

Dr. Deshmukh: May I know what is the estimate of undertaking research on Television and if any scheme has been prepared?

Shri Diwakar: No scheme has been prepared and therefore I am not in a position to give the estimate.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: May I know whether the desirability of making television films to be broadcast in U.S.A. has been examined by Government? If so, with what result?

Shri Diwakar: Not yet examined.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: Do Government propose to do so?

Shri Diwakar: Not just now.

श्री त्यागी : जब टेलीवीजन के मुताल्लिक और मुल्कों में जो रिसर्च हुई है उसी रिसर्च को यहां क्यों नहीं लिया जा रहा है और नई रिसर्च करने की क्या जरूरत है ?

Shri Tyagi: When researches in connection with television been conducted in other countries also then why those researches are not being incorporated here also and what is the necessity of doing fresh research?.

श्री दिवाकर : हमें यहां की परिस्थिति को देखना है, टैकनीशियन्स की कमी और मारकेटिंग वगैरह की पासिबिलिटीज वगैरह इस सब को हमें देखना चाहिये ।

Shri Diwakar: We have to take into consideration the conditions found here. We should keep in mind the problem of the dearth of technicians and marketing facilities and such other possibilities also.

Shri Kamath: Has no Minister so far emphasized the need for televising the activities of Government?

Shri Diwakar: Not so far.

Dr. Deshmukh: Am I to understand that there is no possibility of television being undertaken in any shape or form in the near future?

Shri Diwakar: That is not so.

Shri Shiva Rao: May I ask whether any attempt has been made to produce cheap community sets and if so, with what results?

Shri Diwakar: That is one of the questions before the Research Section and from time to time this thing is being examined and recommendations sent to the State Governments.

Shri R. Velayudhan: Is it a fact that apart from the Research Section there is a Planning and Development Section in the All-India Radio which is doing more or less the same work?

Shri Diwakar: Sometimes questions of planning, if they involve any research, are referred to this Research Section.

INFORMATION FILMS

*1194. **Shri Balwant Sinha Mehta:** Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Publication and Information Divisions of the Government of India prepare Information Films on important occasions;

(b) if so, in what languages these films are prepared; and

(c) whether Government propose to consider the desirability of preparing these films in Hindi, so that masses can also understand them?

The Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting (Shri Diwakar): (a) The Films Division of the Government of India produces documentary films and newsreels. Important occasions are covered for release in the newsreels.

(b) In Hindi, Bengali, Tamil, Telugu and English.

(c) Does not arise.

Shri Balwant Sinha Mehta: What is the percentage of the documentary and information films in Hindi?

Shri Diwakar: All the documentaries and newsreels are put in Hindi.

Shri Balwant Sinha Mehta: What is the main idea in preparing the film on the Constitution in English?

Shri Diwakar: It is produced in Hindi as well as in these five languages. All the documentaries and newsreels are produced in these five languages.

श्री एन० एस० जैन : क्या काश्मीर के सम्बन्ध में कोई इनफार्मेशन रील बनाई गई है ?

Shri N. S. Jain: Has any Information reel about Kashmir been prepared?

श्री दिवाकर : काश्मीर के सम्बन्ध में एक कलर इनफार्मेशन फिल्म बनाई गई है और वह दिखाई जा रही है ।

Shri Diwakar : A coloured information film has been prepared about Kashmir, and it is being exhibited.

श्री एन० एस० जैन : क्या इस में काश्मीर के रहने वालों की जिन्दगी के हाल बतलाये गये हैं ?

Shri N. S. Jain : Has the life of the people in Kashmir been shown in this film?

श्री दिवाकर : उस में क्या २ बतलाया गया है वह सब बातें तो में नहीं बतला सकता मगर वह आजकल भारतवर्ष में दिखाई जा रही है और लोगों ने उस को बहुत पसन्द किया है ।

Shri Diwakar : I cannot give details of the things shown therein, but the said film is now being exhibited in India and the people have liked it very much.

Shri Karmarkar : Arising out of his answer to part (b) of the question, may I ask the hon. Minister when the Government propose to have such films in the Kannada language also?

Shri Diwakar : The question has been examined not only as regards Kannada but as regards other languages also. Now we are having these films in five languages. Regarding others the question is mainly a financial one.

Shri Shiva Rao : Is it a fact that proposals have been placed before the hon. Minister to make the Films Division self-supporting by the sale of films on a commercial scale?

Shri Diwakar : I think we are already receiving some revenue. The matter is engaging the attention of the Films Division.

Shri Joachim Alva : How long does Government propose to produce these newsreels by itself? Or, does it propose to hand it over to private individuals or private firms?

Shri Diwakar : So far we are producing them ourselves; if there are any such proposals, they will be considered on their merits.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari : May I ask the hon. Minister whether he is aware that one of the films produced by his Ministry is a propaganda piece for birth-control, and whether that is the policy of the Government?

Shri Diwakar : There is no policy of birth-control contained in that film. It is only information given to the public.

श्री द्विवेदी : जिन २ भाषाओं में यह रीलें बनाई गई हैं क्या इन को गाँवों में भी दिखाने का प्रबन्ध किया गया है ?

Shri Dwivedi : Have arrangements been made to exhibit these films which have been made in various languages in the villages also?

श्री दिवाकर : यह न्यूज और डॉक्यूमेंटरी फिल्म करीब २७०० सिनेमाओं में दिखाई जाती है और वह अर्बन और रूरल दोनों एरिया में दिखाई जाती हैं।

Shri Diwakar: These news and documentary films are being exhibited in 2,700 cinemas and are exhibited both in the urban and rural areas.

श्री द्विवेदी : इन सिनेमाओं के अलावा क्या गवर्नमेन्ट देहातों में इन को दिखाने के लिए मोटरों का इस्तेमाल करना मुनासिब समझती है और इन फिल्मों को दिखाने के लिए और उस ने क्या कदम उठाया है ?

Shri Dwivedi: Apart from these cinemas do the Government think it proper to utilize mobile cinemas to exhibit them in the rural areas? What steps the Government have taken to exhibit these films there?

श्री दिवाकर : हर स्टेट गवर्नमेन्टे इन को देहातों में दिखाने के लिए कोशिश करती है और कर रही है।

Shri Diwakar: Government of each and every State tries to exhibit them in the rural areas, and all possible efforts are being made.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: May I know whether some of these films are also shown in foreign countries, and if so, whether in order to give an accurate presentation of events to foreign countries, the co-operation of the External Affairs Ministry is also taken in preparing these films?

Shri Diwakar: We are sending to all our Embassies one 16 mm. copy each of the documentaries as well as a round-up, every month, of the newsreels. There is constant co-ordination and co-operation between the External Affairs Ministry and the Films Division.

ARREST OF PAKISTAN SPY IN BOMBAY

*1195. **Shri B. L. Malviya**: (a) Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state whether it is a fact that one Riazuddin Mohamed Azharuddin, was arrested by the Bombay Police on the 14th of January 1950 with 151 sealed packages containing stolen documents of a highly confidential nature of the Hyderabad Government?

(b) What is the nature of the documents and in whose custody these documents were kept?

(c) What steps have the Government so far taken or propose to take against the officer or person having custody of the documents?

(d) How many Pakistan spies have so far been arrested from 14th January, 1950?

The Minister of Home Affairs and the States (Sardar Patel): (a) to (d). Information is being collected.

TECHNICAL TERMS IN A.I.R. BROADCASTS

*1196. **Thakur Lalsingh**: Will the Minister of **Information and Broadcasting** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact the Glossary of technical terms, which was published officially by the Constituent Assembly of India, is not finding support in the various Government departments for its implementation;

(b) whether it is a fact that the All India Radio is still using technical terms contrary to those mentioned in this Glossary in its news bulletins in Indian languages; and

(c) If the answer to part (b) above be in the affirmative, what action do Government propose to take to modify this policy?

The Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting (Shri Diwakar): (a) The Glossary is being taken as a guide by all departments of this Ministry who have occasion to translate technical terms into Hindi.

(b) Technical terms in the Glossary which are easily understood are being used. Other words are being introduced gradually.

(c) Does not arise.

FOREIGN CAPITAL

*1197. **Shri M. V. Rama Rao**: Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to refer to the answers to supplementaries put in Parliament on question No. 872 on 15th March 1950 regarding facilities to U.S.A. Financiers and state:

(a) the total amount of foreign capital invested in India in 1948-49 and 1949-50;

(b) the several countries which have invested capital in India; and

(c) the different enterprises in which capital has been so invested?

The Minister of Finance (Dr. Matthal): (a) to (c). A statement is placed on the Table of the House. [See *Appendix VI, annexure No. 8.*]

EXPENDITURE ON RECORDS OF FILM MUSIC

*1198. **Shri M. V. Rama Rao**: Will the Minister of **Information and Broadcasting** be pleased to lay on the Table a statement showing:

(a) the amount spent during the year 1948-49 on the purchase of records of film music;

(b) the amount spent for payment of honoraria to artists during the same year; and

(c) the amounts spent for these purposes during the year 1949-50?

The Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting (Shri Diwakar): A statement giving the required information is laid on the Table.

However, the figures for the current year are, (1) amount spent on purchase of records of film music—Rs. 17,819 and (2) amount spent on payment of remuneration to musical artists—Rs. 17,59,844.

STATEMENT

Expenditure on Purchase of Film Records and payment of remuneration to Artists during 1948-49 and 1949-50.

	1948-49	1949-50
	Rs.	Rs.
(i) Amount spent on purchase of records of film music	17,973	17,819
(ii) Amount spent on payment of remuneration to musical artists.	14,87,214	17,59,844

Shri Kamath: What proportion of the amount has been paid to Indian artists and what to foreign artists?

Shri Diwakar: I want notice for that.

Prof. Ranga: Is it true that the officers of this Department who are in charge of this, and these programme artists, are still kept on a temporary basis and that none of them has been made permanent?

Shri Diwakar: Some are staff artists who are on a comparatively permanent basis, and some are temporary.

Shri Tyagi: Sir, I just want to ask this. This question does not warrant the laying of any statement on the Table. Only three figures were needed.

Mr. Speaker: But he has read out the principal contents of the statement. I think the hon. Member did not hear the reply.

Shri M. V. Rama Rao: May I ask whether this amount of Rs. 17 lakhs odd that has been paid to the artistes includes the amount paid to the studio artistes who are on permanent engagement?

Shri Diwakar: These amounts were for musical artists only.

Prof. Ranga: May I ask what is meant by "a comparatively permanent basis"? Is it not true that the head of this Section is even today not a permanent Government officer?

Shri Diwakar: I do not exactly understand what the hon. Member wants.

Shri M. V. Rama Rao: May I know whether the musical artistes are not permanently engaged on the staff of the studios?

Shri Diwakar: As I said, some are and some are not.

Prof. Ranga: Is it not a fact that these people are employed only on one year's contract?

Mr. Speaker: That question may not be entered into now.

Prof. Ranga: But he himself said that he did not know what I meant.

Mr. Speaker: The question may be clarified later on. I think we might proceed further. There is not much time.

श्री द्विवेदी : मैं पूछना चाहता हूँ कि जो रिकार्ड्स म्यूजिक के लिए खरीदे जाते हैं क्या बाद को कम दामों में बेच दिए जाते हैं ?

Shri Dwivedi: May I know whether the records that are purchased for music are afterwards sold at cheaper prices?

Shri Diwakar: I want notice for that.

Shri Kamath: Is the Minister himself frequently requested to pass judgment upon the music broadcast by the Radio?

Shri Diwakar: I have not so much time to spare.

Ch. Ranbir Singh: May I know whether dearness allowance is paid to the staff artists or not?

Shri Diwakar: It is given according to the terms of contract.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

MERGER OF BUNDELKHAND STATES WITH U.P.

***1188. Shri K. C. Sharma:** (a) Will the Minister of States be pleased to state whether Government are aware of a popular campaign in many of the Bundelkhand States in favour of merger with the Uttar Pradesh?

(b) If so, have Government taken any steps to meet the demand?

The Minister of Home Affairs and the States (Sardar Patel): (a) and (b). The Government of India have received a number of letters and telegrams containing conflicting demands regarding the future of Cindhya Pradesh. Some or these suggest merger of the State as a whole, or certain parts thereof, in one or the other of the adjoining States; others convey preference for the continuance of the State as a separate Unit. For the reasons which I explained to the House on February 2, 1950 our decision is that Vindhya Pradesh should, for the time being, remain as a Centrally Administered Area.

AYURVEDIC UNIVERSITY

***1189. Shri K. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to a resolution passed at the annual session of the All-India Ayurved Mahamandal held recently at Delhi which urged on the Government to give help to build an Ayurvedic University in India;

(b) whether similar resolutions were also passed at different Ayurved conferences and allied institutions from time to time;

(c) if so, what steps the Government have taken in this matter;

(d) whether it is a fact that the Ayurvedic university of Jhansi has applied to the Government of India for financial aid; and

(e) if the reply to part (d) above be in the affirmative, has the aid asked for been granted and if not, what are the reasons?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) No such resolution has been sent to Government.

(b) Government have no information.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Yes.

(e) No grant-in-aid has been paid to the Ayurvedic University, Jhansi. The question of giving grants to teaching institutions in the States is primarily for the State Governments concerned.

CENTRAL SUBORDINATE SERVICES COMMISSION

***1199. Lala Raj Kanwar:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to refer to the reply given to my starred question No. 1545 on 1st April 1949 and state whether Government have come to any final decision with regard to the proposal of establishing a Central Subordinate Services Commission and if not, at what stage the proposal is pending?

The Minister of Home Affairs and the States (Sardar Patel): It has already been decided to establish a Central Subordinate Services Commission. Necessary investigations into the categorisation of various posts and other preparatory measures for the setting up of the Commission were taken in hand. Partition and events following it, however, made the necessity of setting up of a Commission less urgent on account of the need for absorbing displaced persons. Nevertheless the work of collecting relevant information, statistics from offices situated all over India went on. In view of the present policy of retrenchment and our anticipation that for some time to come precedence will have to be given to retrenched personnel in the matter of recruitment, Government are considering whether in the interests of economy, a Commission should be set up at present.

PAY COMMISSION'S RECOMMENDATIONS RE PENSIONERS' ALLOWANCE

***1200. Shri D. S. Seth:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) the recommendation made by the Pay Commission with respect to the increase in the pensioners' allowance;

(b) whether Government have implemented the Pay Commission's recommendation; and

(c) if not why not?

The Minister of Finance (Dr. Matthal): (a) The recommendation was that Government servants retiring after the 1st January 1947 on pensions not exceeding Rs. 150 p.m. should be granted dearness allowance at half the rates admissible to serving personnel.

(b) No.

(c) Dearness allowance has been sanctioned by Government for persons in service and the considerations on which the allowance was sanctioned do not exist in the case of pensioners.

EJECTIONMENT OF TENANTS IN MALAKPUR (DELHI)

*1201. **Shri D. S. Seth:** Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Chief Commissioner of Delhi has removed the ban against ejectionment of tenants on lands in the village named Malakpur situated in the northern suburb of Delhi;

(b) whether it is a fact that a private concern named 'the Delhi Land and Finance Ltd.' have come to an agreement with the landlords of the village to develop the lands of Malakpur for residential purpose and sale on the basis of 50 per cent. profit for each party; and

(c) how and in what manner Government propose to rehabilitate the tenants of Malakpur, cover the loss of their cultivable lands and make up the loss caused to the "Grow More Food Campaign" by the said ejectionment?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) No legal ban had been imposed against ejectionment of tenants in the village of Malakpur or in any other village in Delhi. The Chief Commissioner had by executive instructions kept all cases relating to ejectionment of tenants of agricultural lands pending until further orders. In the case of Malakpur the Chief Commissioner has now ordered that cases of ejectionment should be decided by the Revenue Authorities in the usual course under the provisions of the Law applicable.

(b) Government are not aware of the terms of the agreement between the company and the land owners.

(c) It is understood that practically all the tenants of the land under reference are tenants at will without occupancy rights and that, in most cases, the leases have not been renewed by the land owners. In the circumstances the question of special steps by Government for the rehabilitation of the tenants does not arise.

DISCRIMINATION AGAINST SCHEDULED CASTES FOR RECRUITMENT IN ARMY

*1202. **Shri Balmiki:** Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that still some Recruiting Officers reject Scheduled Castes candidates by saying "you don't come from Martial Race"; and

(b) if so, whether Government have taken any steps to stop this discrimination?

The Minister of Defence (Sardar Baldev Singh): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

SALE OF MAYURBHANJ GOLD

*1203. **Shri Nalk:** (a) Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state whether there were any gold bullions, along with other assets, made over by the former administration of the Mayurbhanj State either to the Government of India or to the Government of Orissa, and if so, what is the quantity thereof?

(b) Is it a fact that these bullions are proposed to be sold through the Reserve Bank of India and not in the open market, even though in the latter case the return would be higher?

(c) What will be the total difference in return between these two cases?

The Minister of Finance (Dr. Matthai): (a) 2,500 tolas of gold were received when the Mayurbhanj State was taken over as a Centrally Administered Area on the 9th November 1948.

(b) The gold has been transferred to the Government Mint at Bombay and taken on the stocks of Government gold. There is no intention of selling it for the present.

(c) Does not arise.

COMPULSORY SAVING SCHEME

***1204. Lala Achint Ram:** (a) Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state whether it has been brought to his notice that the Compulsory Saving Scheme has placed strain upon those Government servants who are making additional contributions towards their Postal Insurance Policies for recovery of advances granted to them?

(b) If the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative what steps do Government propose to take in the matter?

The Minister of Finance (Dr. Matthai): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

LANGUAGES BROADCAST FROM A.I.R., PATNA

***1205. Shri Kshudiram Mahata:** Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

(a) the languages in which Broadcasts are made from Patna station;

(b) whether any aboriginal language has got a place at this station or any other station in India; and

(c) whether non-developed languages such as Bhojpuri, Kurmali are given consideration for Patna Centre and if not why not?

The Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting (Shri Diwakar): (a) The main language in which broadcasts are made from Patna station is Hindi, with occasional items in English.

(b) Occasional folk songs in Santhali, Draon, Munda and Ho are broadcast from Patna station, and in Khasi and Jaintia from Shillong.

(c) Bhojpuri as well as Maithili and Magahi which are dialects of Hindi are given consideration at the Patna station.

KASTURBA TRUST MATERNITY HOMES

***1206. Shri Kannamwar:** (a) Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state what kind of help the Government propose to render to the maternity homes started by Kasturba Trust in rural areas?

(b) Do Government propose to encourage the private village nurses trained by Kasturba Trust Fund?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) It is understood that the Kasturba Trust has very few maternity homes but they are establishing

a large number of maternity centres. The type of service offered is mostly domiciliary midwifery service or skilled care at confinements in the homes. The centres also provide rural health service. The State Governments are co-operating closely with the services organised by the Kasturba Trust. It is understood that some State Governments are considering the inclusion of these centres in their Health Unit Schemes.

(b) The State Governments are associating themselves closely in the training programme of the Trust and offer facilities for the training of workers in State Government hospitals or Government-aided hospitals and child welfare centres. The training of village nurses will certainly be encouraged provided a proper standard of training is maintained at the level approved by the Indian Nursing Council.

NAGPUR RADIO STATION

*1207. **Shri Keesamwar:** Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state whether Government have any proposal to increase the activities of the broadcasting station at Nagpur in Madhya Pradesh?

The Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting (Shri Diwaker): The installation of a 10 K.W. medium wave transmitter at Nagpur has been taken in hand to increase the existing transmitting facilities.

SCHEDULED CASTES IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH

133. **Prof. Yashwant Rai:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) the number of scheduled caste members in each category of service in the Ministry of Health;

(b) whether the number is not as reserved for scheduled castes; and

(c) what special steps Government propose to take to fill in the reserved quota under the spirit of Article No. 385 of the New Constitution?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) Assistant—1; Clerks—2.

(b) The number is less than the reserved quota.

(c) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the reply given to part (b) of unstarred question No. 89 on the 10th March 1950 by the hon. Minister of Finance.

STRENGTH OF ARMED FORCES

134. **Shri Sidhva:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state the total number of army in India, Air Force and Marine?

The Minister of Defence (Sardar Baldev Singh): It is not in the public interest to disclose the information.

IMPORT OF WIRELESS SETS

135. **Shri Sidhva:** (a) Will the Minister of **Information and Broadcasting** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that wireless transmission sets have been purchased from foreign countries for better communication of broadcasts between one part of the country and another?

(b) If so, what is the number of such sets imported, what is their cost and the places where they are installed?

The Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting (Shri Diwakar): (a) No transmitters have been purchased from foreign countries during the year 1949-50 for broadcast between one part of the country and another.

(b) Does not arise.

RUNWAY TESTING TEAM

136. **Shri Sidhva:** (a) Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state whether the Runway Testing Team of the British Air Ministry has completed report of its tour of airports of India and submitted it to the Government of India?

(b) If so, by whom was this team appointed?

(c) What is the nature of the report?

(d) What steps do Government intend to take in order to improve these runways?

The Minister of Defence (Sardar Baldev Singh): (a) to (d). A team of experts was appointed by the Air Ministry in the United Kingdom to test their various airfields in the Far East. As there are no arrangements in this country for testing the load bearing capacity of airfields, advantage was taken of this team and their equipment to test some of the more important airfields in India. The team has left India. Reports relating to airfields at Poona and Agra have been received and are being studied. Reports on other airfields are expected shortly.

Wednesday, 29th March, 1950



PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

(Part II—Proceedings other than Questions and Answers)

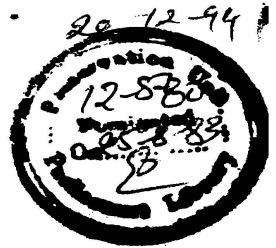
OFFICIAL REPORT

VOLUME I, 1950

First Session
of the

PARLIAMENT OF INDIA

1950



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PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

(PART II—PROCEEDINGS OTHER THAN QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS)

Wednesday, 29th March, 1950

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

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

(See Part I)

11-45 A.M.

STATEMENT ON SITUATION IN EAST AND WEST BENGAL

Mr. Speaker: The hon. the Prime Minister will now make a statement.

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): Sir, as the House knows, I have been for some time past in correspondence with the Prime Minister of Pakistan in regard to recent happenings in East and West Bengal. In view of the grave developments that have taken place, I felt that correspondence, by telegram or letter, was not an adequate or satisfactory method of dealing with this problem. I invited Mr. Liaquat Ali Khan therefore to come to Delhi, with such colleagues as he might consider necessary to discuss these matters, not only with a view to meeting the present crisis, but also to find an enduring solution of the problems that face us. Soon after I had sent him my invitation, I received an invitation from him to go to Karachi for the same purpose. Our invitations crossed each other. On my further pressing him to come to Delhi, he was good enough to agree and we shall expect him and his colleagues here on April 2nd.

I have also to inform the House that the situation in the Howrah area and in some other parts of West Bengal became serious and, day before yesterday, the West Bengal Government asked the military to take charge, from the law and order point of view, of the Howrah area. Rather inaccurately, this has been described as the promulgation of martial law. No such actual promulgation has taken place and therefore technically there is no martial law. But we have given the largest powers to the military and they are more or less in control of the Howrah area. We have assured the West Bengal Government of our fullest support in any action they may take to deal with the situation in any part of the State. If necessity arises, martial law will be proclaimed. We are determined to meet this menace with the full resources of the State and to punish all evil-doers as well as those who incite others to evil deeds.

These new arrangements in Howrah and elsewhere have resulted in an immediate improvement of the situation. The Howrah area has been quiet and in the rest of Calcutta also there has been practically no

[Shri Jawaharlal Nehru]

incident. The jute mill area is also quiet. There has been an improvement also in other parts of West Bengal.

As the House knows, the country has been shocked and pained by events that took place in East Bengal. Recent happenings in West Bengal, and more particularly in Calcutta and Howrah areas, have been a matter of the deepest shame and sorrow for us. It is the responsibility of our Governments, Central and State, as well as of our people, to preserve Law and Order and to give full security to every individual. More especially it is our duty and responsibility to give that full sense of security to the minorities who dwell in this country. Every failure to give it is a failure of Government to that extent and no excuse is sufficient to justify it. A distinguished Englishman, Mr. Cameron, President of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce, met his death at the hands of a mob, in trying to protect his servant. Many citizens and nationals of our country have also met their death at the hands of evil-doers and others who have been led away by passion and prejudice into committing deeds which cannot possibly be excused. I should like to express our Government's deep sorrow for these unhappy and deplorable occurrences which bring discredit upon us.

The fact that an excited and impassioned crowd misbehaves is bad enough, but it is far worse for some people, by speech or writing or otherwise, to excite and inflame the multitude and thus induce them to commit evil deeds. The responsibility of these people is very great, far greater often than that of the crowd or the individual who actually commits the deed. I should like everyone to realise this, and to realise even more how the whole future of our country and our people is being injured by the madness or fanaticism of a few. There has been far too much wild talk and wild writing without thought given to what all this means and what the consequences might be. Our country will progress or will perish because of what we do ourselves, not because of what others may or may not do.

No Government, worthy of its name, can tolerate public disorder and incitement to disorder which we have seen recently. The Government, of which I have the honour to be Prime Minister, is determined not to tolerate this and I am sure that this House and the country will give their full support and co-operation to the Government in this task.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

REPORT OF INDIAN DELEGATION TO SECOND WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Report of the Indian Delegation to the Second World Health Assembly held in Rome in June to July, 1949. [Placed in the Library. See No. I.V.E.O. (19)].

INDUSTRIAL FINANCE CORPORATION (ISSUE OF BONDS) REGULATIONS

The Minister of Finance (Dr. Matthal): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Industrial Finance Corporation (Issue of Bonds) Regulations, in accordance with sub-section (3) of Section 43 of the Industrial Finance Corporation Act, 1948. [Placed in the Library. See No. P-87/50].

STATEMENT re MEETINGS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

The Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Satya Narayan Sinha): I beg to lay on the Table a statement showing the meetings of the

Standing Committees attached to various Ministries and subjects discussed at such meetings during the year 1949-50. [See Appendix No. VIII, Annexure No. 1].

FINANCE BILL

Mr. Speaker: We will now proceed with the consideration of the Bill to be moved by Dr. John Matthai. Before he moves it, I should like to know how we shall divide the time for discussion. There is first the consideration stage and then the clause by clause stage. I find that a large number of amendments are to be moved. So how shall we proceed?

The Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Satya Narayan Sinha): The whole day may be taken up for general discussion. We shall take up the amendments tomorrow. There are very few amendments to be moved.

Mr. Speaker: Whatever that may be, the arrangement is that today we shall proceed with the consideration motion and the question will be put at, say, 5 o'clock. We shall have the clause by clause discussion tomorrow.

The Minister of Finance (Dr. Matthai): If the discussion today is to take place on the consideration motion may I ask you whether you would allow me to give my reply to the debate tomorrow morning immediately after question time as we did last time on the General Budget?

Shri Satya Narayan Sinha: I think that would be better.

Mr. Speaker: That will leave a little less time for the clause by clause discussion, but it will give more time for the general discussion.

Dr. Matthai: I shall not take more than half an hour.

Mr. Speaker: Very well. He may reply tomorrow.

Shri M. A. Ayyangar (Madras): I did not take part in any of the general discussions so far.

Mr. Speaker: The motion has not yet been moved. Let the Finance Minister move it.

Dr. Matthai: I beg to move:

"That the Bill to give effect to the financial proposals of the Central Government for the year beginning on the 1st day of April, 1950, as reported by the Select Committee, be taken into consideration."

I do not wish to make a speech at this stage, because the amendments which have been proposed by the Select Committee are, on the whole, very few in number and they have been stated very clearly in the Report of the Select Committee. So, I shall reserve whatever I have to say till the termination of the general discussion.

Mr. Speaker: Motion moved:

"That the Bill to give effect to the financial proposals of the Central Government for the year beginning on the 1st day of April, 1950, as reported by the Select Committee, be taken into consideration."

Shri Sarwate (Madhya Bharat): On a matter of clarification, Sir. The Committee for the Integration of Indian States' Finances appointed some time ago made certain recommendations, one of which was that the income-tax rates in the old Indian States should be different for some time and it was proposed that separate agreements should be entered into with each of those States. I want to know whether these agreements have been executed and if so, whether they would be placed on the Table of the House.

Dr. Matthal: These agreements have been executed and I think I made a statement some time ago in the House that I would be placing them on the Table of the House.

Mr. Speaker: I should like to fix a time-limit of, say, fifteen minutes and would request hon. Members to restrict their remarks to that time-limit.

Shri M. A. Ayyangar *rose*—

Shri B. Das (Orissa): Fifteen minutes will be nothing for him. He may be given half an hour—at least one man.

Mr. Speaker: I would not mind his being given half an hour.

Shri M. A. Ayyangar: I am thankful to my hon. friend Mr. Das for having recommended half an hour in my favour.

I am extremely glad to say that in the Select Committee we have made up those deficiencies which were pointed out on the floor of the House both during the General Discussion on the Budget and also on the Finance Bill. One of the major objections to the Finance Bill was that in the case of industrialists and those who pay high income-tax (or the richer sections of the community) the relief given by the Finance Bill was very high. It is true that whatever wrong was done to the business community and to business as a whole in this country by the financial provisions introduced in the year 1946 have been sought to be righted from time to time, last year and this year. The income-tax and super-tax of Re. 0-15-6 per rupee was reduced to Re. 0-14-0 last year and this year it has been further reduced to Rs. 0-12-6. It is expected that this relief will encourage the richer classes to plough back their savings to industries and also subscribe for loans raised by the Government for nation-building services.

I am glad to learn that the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry, which met here recently, received these proposals quite favourably. I would have expected them to have come forward with a definite resolution thanking the Government. But the test of the pudding is in the eating. I expect that during the course of the year they will justify by their action by improving the industries and increasing the wealth of the nation, that they amply deserved all the considerations that have been shown by both the Finance Minister and the House.

As regards the share market, I am sorry to note that it has not shown signs of improvement. Two or three months in advance the share-market anticipated some sort of relief measures on account of the various speeches that have been made from time to time. That accounts for the insufficient improvement in share market conditions.

Shri A. P. Jain (Uttar Pradesh): It has sagged now.

Shri M. A. Ayyangar: It has sat down for various reasons. This morning I find that the Madras share market has shown signs of improvement, while, on account of disturbances in Calcutta and Bombay, the condition of the market is unsatisfactory.

The day after the announcement of the tax reduction we all expected the share market quotations to shoot up. But it did not for the reason that two months in advance the hon. the Finance Minister gave an inkling that the Government wanted to see business as a whole flourish. In anticipation of that share quotations shot up and they could not shoot much further up merely on account of the announcement on the 28th of February.

No doubt the financial provisions were received well by the business community. But repeated representations have been made by the middle and the poorer classes. We have to a large extent met these deficiencies.

So far as the middle classes are concerned, hitherto the exemption limit was Rs. 3,000 in the case of the individual; and Rs. 6,000 in the case of the Undivided Hindu Family. In the case of the former we have raised the exemption limit to Rs. 3,600; that means any person who gets a salary of Rs. 300 per month is exempted from paying any income-tax.

Likewise we have increased the exemption limit of the undivided Hindu Family to Rs. 7,200, on the basis that an undivided Hindu family consists of at least two individuals. There are of course many persons who feel that with respect to individuals the exemption limit could have been raised to Rs. 4,000 or 5,000. Even by our having fixed it at Rs. 3,600, nearly a lakh of persons have benefited by the concessions. On this item alone the exchequer will lose nearly Rs. 50 lakhs. Though it may be argued that we have a surplus budget, we have to be prepared for any eventuality on account of the unfortunate happenings in the East. Therefore we have to be careful and ought not to fritter away what little surplus we have been able to accumulate or what little surplus is expected during the course of the year. But a relief to the middle classes was absolutely necessary. During the war the richer section of the population flourished. The poorer section of the population like factory and railway labour also stood to gain, because their wages went up three or four times. While in the case of labour all the members of the family work, in the middle class families there is only one earning member. The middle class is the backbone of the country; it is the most vociferous section that constitutes public opinion; the major part of the services, both in the Centre as well as in the provinces is drawn from that section of the community. For all these reasons their faithfulness and contentment is of the utmost importance for the welfare of the country. I am, therefore, thankful to the hon. the Finance Minister for having consented to this relief to the middle classes.

As regards the poor section, namely, the general masses of our country, the Central Government can only indirectly affect the lot of the masses in the country. As a measure of relief to them we wanted to bring about a reduction in the price of kerosene. It was, therefore, suggested that the excise duty on kerosene, which is about Rs. 20 lakhs per annum, may be removed.

Shri Sondhi (Punjab): Is it Rs. 20 lakhs or Rs. 3 crores?

Shri M. A. Ayyangar: I am not talking of the import duty which is Rs. 3½ crores. I am speaking of the excise duty which is about Rs. 20 lakhs. Some of us suggested the removal of this excise. The Finance Minister very rightly pointed out that the incidence of this duty came to only one pie per bottle, and even this small relief, may not reach the masses. He thought that other measures should be adopted for selling kerosene cheaper to the masses. I am sure that with his intelligence and far-sightedness he will take prompt measures to persuade persons who are in charge of this work to see to it that erelong kerosene, which is one of the necessities of life of the masses, is sold cheaper.

Another item which affects the poor man's budget is match sticks. There are many parts in South India where match sticks are made in cottages. As the House knows prohibition was introduced in all the 28 districts of the Madras Presidency. Many persons (particularly in the three southern districts of the province) who previously were engaged in the business of manufacture of alcohol or toddy have taken to match-stick industry on a cottage basis. I am told that the out-turn of this cottage industry is much better than the products of large scale companies like the WIMCO. They naturally needed some protection. The Select

[Shri M. A. Ayyangar]

Committee considered the case of this cottage industry and has recommended a reduction of one anna in the excise duty per gross. In the case of the medium factories, a reduction of half an anna per gross was recommended. I am sure that the cottage and medium match-stick industry will benefit by this concession and will justify it. I have already said that the middle classes have also been helped.

Then there are one or two others which we wanted the Government to consider. The internal price of pepper is soaring up. Black pepper is selling at Rs. 650 a cwt. An *ad valorem* duty at 30 per cent was imposed on it when the price of the commodity was Rs. 200. We suggested that this value might be raised from Rs. 200 to Rs. 600 so that the Government may not lose the benefit of this soaring price. There is some hesitancy on their part to do so, because Indonesia, which is the other producer of black pepper, has since devalued its currency. We have to seriously consider whether the increase of this *ad valorem* duty may not act detrimentally to our export trade. The hon. Finance Minister will consider this matter from time to time. After all, any duty we impose will be only a revenue duty and as such can be lowered from time to time.

As regards sugar, though the price of sugar has been fixed and though the Tariff Board recommended the abolition of the protective duty and the Syndicate which acted as a monopolist and tried to increase the price of sugar abnormally to the detriment of the consumer, has been abolished, we are not satisfied with the mere conversion of this protective duty into a revenue duty, as we see that the price of sugar has not gone down. We therefore wanted that the revenue duty should be lowered. The Finance Minister told us that this industry, which is only next in importance to steel and textile, should not be deprived of protection and that it will take some time for the change-over from protective to revenue duty to be reconciled. But I request him to see that if the prices rise, the revenue duty is reduced so that there may be a prospect of sugar coming from foreign countries. At present there is no such prospect, because all the sugar producing countries are in the Dollar area. But there must be a prospect for the import of sugar from foreign countries in case the industrialists here once again begin to raise the price abnormally taking advantage of the shortage of sugar in this country. I am satisfied with the assurance given by the hon. the Finance Minister that he will be watching the position from time to time.

Then there is the question of extending the provisions of the Income-tax Act to the merged States and other States. This extension is automatic. The Act was passed sometime ago. This is only a copy of the provisions of that Act.

Next, we made no change in the additional duties at the rates of half-value or one-fifth or two-fifths. All that is there in paragraph 5.

As regards the removal of the excise duty on superfine cloth, we did not consider that matter for the reason that that concession will not cost very much. But as regards coarse cloth we desired to reduce the excise duty. But we found that it cut into our revenues so much and at the same time did not benefit the very large number of people to any appreciable extent, that we did not want to interfere with the existing duty.

As regards postal rates we have been given an assurance which I think should not be withheld from the House. The hon. Minister said that from first October he will reduce the price of envelopes.....

Prof. Ranga (Madras): Air-letters.

Shri M. A. Ayyangar: Air-letters from two annas to 0-1-6. He would not introduce it straightaway from now as it requires time to print these air-letters.

Shri Sidhva (Madhya Pradesh): One anna and six pies for inland mail only.

Shri M. A. Ayyangar: One other matter which raised some doubts in our minds was whether the local delivery cards in regard to which there is a reduction would benefit only the businessmen in large centres like Madras, Bombay, Calcutta and Delhi only. The hon. Minister has told us that in due course he may be able to extend this concession to rural areas, from places in one district to another in the same district. He said that in such cases the post card will cost only half an anna and not three quarters of an anna. I hope that this will be done as early as possible and the masses of the country benefited.

Lastly I come to the question of the revenue duty on motor-cars and spare-parts or accessories about which there are amendments tabled. Exception has been taken in some quarters and amendments have been tabled that article 4 may be removed from this Bill. I wish only to mention some facts in this connection. During the war even Australia established an automobile industry. A committee was formed under the then Government of India to advise them in regard to the starting of various industries in this country. Various recommendations were made by them and the general principle enunciated by them was that only such industries shall be started in this country which, after the war, will not compete with any industry in the United Kingdom. India and the United Kingdom were considered to be a single unit and it was decided that whatever the United Kingdom was able to produce ought not to be allowed to be produced in this country, and that subject to this consideration only encouragement should be given to the starting of industries here. Look at the step-motherly treatment our industries were receiving at their hands. The Hindusthan Aircraft Factory must have been working in good condition even after the War, but as soon as the War was over they stopped assembling and now we are finding all this takes time. The motor-car and spare parts industry is a very heavy industry and requires enormous capital. Recently, one company has spent about Rs. 3 crores or so and has brought plant and machinery and it is ready to start production in Calcutta. Another company has started assembling parts in Bombay. A third company is assembling parts in Madras and it is also likely to start producing some parts. Now a fourth company has already come into existence. These four companies promise to produce sufficient number of motor cars in a short period of time and even engines will be produced in this country. The Fiscal Commission of 1921-22 stated that before an industry is entitled to protection it must have already started production and there must be a possibility within a reasonable period of time that it will establish itself and face world competition. Even though the report of this Commission has been there for nearly 27 years, the policy of discriminating protection has also been there and hence no automobile industry has been started and no big industry has been started by private enterprise and this is due to the policy of discriminating protection. A different Fiscal Commission has been appointed which has gone into this matter. Apart from the recommendations which they will make very soon, I would say that the general consensus of opinion in the country is that with respect to certain industries which are of vital nature to the country, we ought not to wait until the industry starts production but in anticipation protection ought to be given. Government must also ask industrialists to come forward to establish industries and they will have to see to it that competitors do not come from foreign countries or they do not import products which are likely to compete with those industries.

[Shri M. A. Ayyangar]

We have adopted a new principle in this Bill of granting protection in advance, to the automobile industry in this country and whatever parts are manufactured with respect to these parts instead of prohibiting them 90 per cent. duty has been imposed. If they are manufactured already here in this country 60 per cent. duty is imposed, and with regard to those parts with respect to which there is absolutely no likelihood of production in this country 30 per cent. duty is imposed. Some exception has been taken to the grant of protection in advance. They want to see that the industry comes into production and the permanent or *ad hoc* Tariff Board should go into the matter as to the quantum of protection that is needed. There can be difference of opinion in the matter, but we in the Select Committee were under the impression that this industry would require protection in advance for a couple of years lest those parts which they are likely to produce might be dumped into this country in advance. That is a matter which when we come to deal with this particular clause, we can discuss at greater length.

That is the only justification for giving protection in advance. On the whole, Sir, we have done our best to co-operate with the hon. Finance Minister, who within the limits of his capacity and the possible earnings during the course of the year, has tried to accommodate all sections of the community. I am glad to say that all sections—the industrialists, the ordinary middle-class, and the lower sections of the community—must feel happy with the various provisions made by the Select Committee. Having regard to the critical times through which we are passing, I wish that all communities will co-operate to produce the greatest amount of wealth and also see that that wealth which is produced is distributed between all communities, so that all of us may live happily together.

Shri C. Subramaniam (Madras): It has now become almost a practice for the hon. Finance Minister, while he is formulating the financial proposals, to leave something for the Select Committee, because he well knows that a Select Committee is going to be constituted and he has to seemingly yield in some matters to them. My own view of the matter is, Sir, that it leaves a bad odium. Here is a case where a relief has been given to the middle classes, i.e., the exemption limit has been raised and some concession is given to the match factories. I hope this exemption from the payment of income-tax to the extent of Rs. 3,600 is quite well deserved and could possibly have been done by the hon. Finance Minister himself; but now it looks as if the Government has no concern about the middle-class people or a cottage industry and it is only this House which is very careful about their interests and therefore, it was only the Select Committee and its pressure on the hon. Finance Minister that compelled Government to agree to show a concession to the middle-classes. It is quite likely that such an impression will be created and in my view these concessions should have been given by the hon. Finance Minister in Government's original proposals. It should not have been left to the Select Committee to give these concessions to the middle-classes as well as to the match industry. I already expressed my views when the Select Committee was constituted for the first time to go into the financial proposals, that this method is not quite desirable. I still feel so, whatever the hon. the Deputy-Speaker might feel about it with all his experience in Parliament. I feel, Sir that this system of submitting financial proposals of the Government to the Select Committee is not on the whole desirable. It is likely to lead to all sorts of pressure being put in the Select Committee. That is my first point.

Secondly, the hon. the Deputy-Speaker dealt with the matter of giving protection in advance to motor spare parts industry. That is a new term

which has come into currency now. Sir, it is said that three companies are already prepared to go into production and the fourth company is also being established but I would like to know from the hon. the Deputy Speaker, whether, as a matter of fact, they are going to manufacture all the spare parts which are mentioned in clause 4 and how long will they take to do them. Let the hon. the Finance Minister say something about that. If they are going to take one or two years to start production of at least certain of the parts mentioned in clause 4, then I do not see why even now this protective duty should be given. After all, Sir, when we impose the protective duty, is it not necessary for us to examine how far this protection will not be exploited by the industrialists? Even before they start production, how can we know the extent to which the protection is needed. After all, when protection is given, the House ought to know the facts and figures; here is an essential industry which is being started and the cost of production comes to this on an economic basis; on the other hand the foreign importers are dumping their goods at cheap prices and so the industry needs so much protection. Here we have absolutely no data whatsoever. We are asked to say in advance: "Here is a protection of 90 per cent. given to you; you take it and start production." Is it a fact that the industrialists refused to start production unless they were given a definite assurance in advance? I do not know what to say about those industrialists. Soon after the Budget one of the industrialists said: "The Government is now talking in terms of realism." I do not know whether the hon. the Finance Minister is flattered by that certificate, but I would ask the industrialists: "Are you acting in terms of realism?" Is it in the interests of the country to say that they would only start production after getting protection in advance? No doubt it is the duty of the Government to promote industries in the country? If an industry requires protection, certainly it will be given, but this sort of asking for assurances, and not only assurances but asking for protection even before starting production, is not to my mind acting in terms of realism. And then, Sir, another factor also has got to be taken into consideration. You have now increased the duty to 60 per cent. and 90 per cent. But what about the spare parts already in the hands of the magnates who are now the manufacturers? They are the assemblers here, certainly they would have with them a large stock of spare parts. The increase of the duty would certainly increase the price of these spare parts and these are sure to go into the blackmarkets. What steps have you taken to protect the consumers and the country in respect of the spare parts which are already in the hands of the big magnates? I do not know what steps have been taken and I hope the hon. Finance Minister will throw some light on this aspect, regarding the goods already in the hands of the magnates, whether any stock has been taken of the spare parts already available here. I feel, Sir, what is called advance protection is a misnomer, for it is no protection at all. It is giving in the name of protection an opportunity for exploitation by a few.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*].

And the hon. Deputy-Speaker was saying that we have benefited the middle-class people by the tax relief. Yes, certainly they need some protection. But in how many cases are middle-class people able to buy new cars? Many of them cannot afford to buy new cars and they have to go in only for second-hand ones and this duty is sure to increase their cost of maintenance. You have given relief to middle-class people to the extent of Rs. 10 or 20 or 50, but the cost of maintaining the cars will go up by nearly Rs. 500. It is all right for the big bosses who could buy new cars, Buicks, New Chevrolets or whatever new model cars may be coming, but what about the middle-class man? Have you calculated how much

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more it will cost him for maintaining his car? I think it will be double, or treble or even four times what it was, and you say you have given relief to the middle-class people. I feel rather strongly about this clause 4; it is not a protection which ought to be given now. You may take any spare part which is being produced in the country now. Take its case and if it needs protection, you examine it and then give the necessary protection. But I am against this kind of advance protection and I do not know how the hon. Deputy-Speaker fell into the trap in spite of his parliamentary experience in this House.

Sir, within the little time at my disposal I would like to refer to the foreign trade policy of our Government. Sir, our main charge against the alien rulers, at any rate, one of the main charges, was that the foreign trade of our country was being manipulated in the interest of the alien rulers, in the interest of their country. And now, a national government has been in charge of the affairs of the country for the past two and a half years or three years. Sir, I do not know what the future verdict would be with regard to the foreign trade policy adopted by this national government. I am not quite sure, Sir, that it would be a favourable verdict, for we have been, Sir, bungling and still the bungling continues.

With regard to our imports under the O. G. L. system, in 1948-49 that was discussed during the debate on the grant for the Commerce Ministry. I was not present, but I have gone through the proceedings rather carefully, more carefully than I would have done, had I been present in the House. On going through the proceedings I saw the explanation given by the hon. Commerce Minister with regard to the Open General Licence system and the import of luxury goods. He has thrown the blame on the blackmarketeers, that they had hidden money with no possible outlet and therefore they used it for the purpose of importing all sorts of articles. Sir, before they introduced this system of imports, did not the hon. Commerce Minister know that there is hidden money in the country, that it could not find any outlet? I do not know whether he knew it or not. If there was such a large amount of money without possible outlet, Sir, should not the Commerce Minister have anticipated that this is likely to provide an outlet for them and therefore they would naturally utilise this outlet for importing all sorts of articles? What is the use of coming to this House and saying, "I anticipated that nothing of this sort would be done, and these blackmarketeers have spoilt my policy." You should have anticipated all these things, that the blackmarketeer would take advantage of this and would try to import all sorts of articles.

And the next point is, Sir, we were not able to find out to what extent this policy had increased the imports or how it is being worked out, till we had overdrawn to the extent of about eighty million pounds from the Sterling Balance. You go on giving licences under the O. G. L. system till you are reminded of this fact, that you have overdrawn to this large extent. Before that you never took stock to find out whether it was working properly or not. For these reasons, Sir, I do not know whether the future verdict on our import policy would be favourable, though it has been justified by the hon. Finance Minister also in his speech, on various grounds, one ground contradicting the other, according to my humble opinion. I say this, because, at one stage he says the import of luxury goods is to the extent of only one or two per cent but at another place he states the whole of his economy might tumble down if this import is not made as he would not have been able to earn what he has done under Customs, but for this import of non-essential articles. I am reminded of a story that took place in my place. An old merchant dealing

in piece goods placed his son in charge of his business and left the place for some time. After a few months he came back to find that all the sales were systematically made to a certain person at Re. 1 less than the market price. He asked the youngster why he was selling at a lower price, and the latter replied, "Doesn't matter, I have been earning 4 annas commission on the sale of each piece!" He did not realise that he was losing one rupee in the business. In the same way our hon. Finance Minister does not realise that he is losing valuable foreign exchange to the extent that he is importing these articles, but he is glad at having squeezed out something from our own people to the extent of a few crores.

Then, Sir, there was discussion about the export of jute and the hon. Commerce Minister justified his policy of fixing the export price by saying, "I want to make cheap jute goods available to the Americans so that they may not go in for substitutes, and Government is not going to act in the manner of blackmarketeers." Very good sentiments, Sir, admirably expressed. But what is the effect? You say you are going to supply cheap jute goods, but to whom? To the consumers in America? Are you doing that? No. They are paying the same price as they were paying before. There is absolutely no decrease in the price as far as the American consumer is concerned. And as far as you are concerned, even after devaluation, you are maintaining the same price i.e., 45 per cent. lower than the price prevailing in America. To whom does the benefit go? It goes to the middleman and the blackmarketeer. You create ideal conditions for blackmarketeers to flourish.

What is the condition in the jute market? There are people prepared to pay a higher price here. You say you want to stop blackmarketing in jute goods. I do not know to which people you refer, whether people here or in America. American price is not coming down. Therefore, if there is a certain price prevailing in America, why do not you take advantage of it instead of saying you would not take the money which is coming your way. That is not the way to run a business. Whatever may apply to individual businessmen will in the last analysis apply to international business, to business between nation and nation. If the consumer pays the same price, why should we not take advantage of it and fix the price at a level which would bring us the maximum profit? That certainly, you are not doing. As far as the consumer is concerned, he is in the same position. You will be absorbing the middleman's profit, the blackmarketeer's profit which is going away from the country. It is not only a loss to the jute manufacturer here, it is a national loss also in the sense that valuable foreign exchange is being taken away by other countries.

In spite of that the hon. Minister for Commerce would maintain that his policy of fixing the export price at pre-devaluation level is quite sound. I fail to see that.

Then with regard to cotton, we have been importing to the tune of 10 lakhs of bales of cotton out of which 3 or 4 lakhs we are getting from Egypt and East Africa. The balance we were getting from Pakistan. At present we are not getting anything from Pakistan. Now the proposal seems to be to import these extra six lakh bales from America at a price, I understand, which will be almost double that prevailing in India for the local variety of cotton. Then what will be the effect of that? You will find that we have fixed an export target of 800 million yards of cloth and they want to further increase it by another 1½ million yds. Therefore the total export would be 9½ million yds and I understand for producing a thousand yards of cloth, approximately one bale of cotton would be required. Therefore the cotton content of the exported cloth would be 9½ lakh bales and you are importing 10 lakh bales of cotton. The

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9½ lakh bales of cotton required for export of cloth would be from the Indian cotton which would be at a cheap rate because we are exporting only the medium and coarse varieties, and those are manufactured from the Indian cotton. For internal consumption you would be using imported American cotton and this burden will be falling on the common man who, you Mr. Deputy-Speaker said, needs some protection or relief. But he is going to be asked to pay at a rate commensurate with the rate at which cotton is imported from foreign parts, having allowed the cheaper cotton to be exported. It is all right for a country where the purchasing power is high to ask the people to subsidise exports but to ask a poor country like ours to subsidise exports is not good economy. That is how it is being worked now.

Another thing is, there was almost a crisis in the Handloom Industry and some of us approached the Minister for Industry and Supply and he took all steps necessary to relieve that stagnation. Now the position to-day is that on account of your export policy, all the yarn is being exported. I had an occasion to tour my district and I came into contact with some of the weavers. There was a co-operative society in which there were a thousand looms. They complained that for the last one or two months they have been getting only 1½ bales per month for all the thousand looms and that too at higher prices. The price fixed by Government for twenties is Rs. 15-6-0 but it has shot up in the black-market to Rs. 22. That shows the scarcity. Therefore in adjusting our external trade, we should also look to the possible repercussions on the internal economy also. Otherwise what is the use of the Government taking all steps and the Railway Minister giving concession for the transport of handloom cloth? It was all done for the purpose of putting the handloom industry on a firm basis. Now they do not get the yarn and they have to pay 50 per cent more than the controlled price if they want it and the industry is going to ruins.

Now we say we are short of dollars and we go to the International Bank for borrowing at 4 per cent. free of tax. A representative from the Bank comes for inspection of the assets and he wants to find out every possible asset. Here for the purpose of exporting cloth you are going to import cotton from America to the tune of 60 or 70 crores of rupees, and you are going to sell these products in the Sterling area. We are short of dollars, and we want to earn dollars, but we propose to import cotton from America and then convert it into cloth and sell it here in our country and then export our cheap cloth to the sterling area. This is how our affairs are being managed!

Then I would refer to the third item viz., tea. The Commerce Minister said he has been valiently supported by the hon. Member from Assam and I do not know whether he still takes that view but the fact is this. You agree that the price we get for tea is Rs. 1-7-3 per lb. You get some allowance for increased cost of production over the basic price fixed. Including that you are getting Rs. 1-7-3 per lb. It has been said that tea is being sold at foreign markets at Rs. 2-4-0 per lb. I would ask the Ministers of Finance and Commerce whether this is a fact. If that is the case, who is absorbing the margin of 0-12-0, leave alone the fact whether the hon. Member from Assam supports it or the whole House supports it. If you should care for the interest of the country, should you not see that the grower and the Government get some share of this at least, if not the entire margin? He will say that it is not in the interest of this country. I do not know what the interests of the country are. To say that we will not sell at the best price available—I do not know whether it is business or philanthropy. That is why I said that I am not quite sure whether the

verdict of the future would be in favour of the policy that is being pursued now. After all to make errors is quite human. We have just begun our National Government and therefore we might make mistakes but to try to justify those mistakes is a crime which I wish to condemn in this House. It is not as if we do not commit mistakes—we are liable to commit mistakes and we should commit mistakes and learn but to justify it and continue it is the greatest crime and I hope this House will not condone it.

Shri Biswanath Das: (Orissa): Sir, I thank you very much and I thank myself also for having been able to catch your eye. I do not care to be in the list nor do I care to be in the good graces of the Speaker or the Deputy-Speaker to get a hearing. I am of a different temper. I do not seek any favours. If I am able to catch their eye, I stand and talk.

I have patiently heard the Debates on the Finance Bill. I must frankly confess that I do not agree with the tax structure adumbrated in the Bill. This I have fully explained in my Minute of Dissent and I stand to say that I am prepared to justify everything that I have put therein. That does not mean that my regard and respect for the hon. the Finance Minister is any the less. He is a brilliant man, generous to his friends and equally generous to his opponents.

Shri Kamath (Madhya Pradesh): Has he got any enemies?

Shri Biswanath Das: It should be few, if at all he has any. When we were discussing the Budget, I expected to have some information on certain points, and let me state them here. The first question on which I expected an explanation from the hon. the Finance Minister was what steps he is going to take with regard to the Contingency Fund of India that we have provided for in the Constitution. It is within your knowledge, Sir, that this was not within the contemplation of the framers. It was at the suggestion of my hon. friend, Pandit Kunzru, that the Constituent Assembly considered the question and came to the decision that a Contingency Fund of India should be provided for, and power has been vested in this Parliament to make the necessary legislation so as to provide in future for a Contingency Fund of India. Now, the hon. the Finance Minister has not given us any indication of what steps he proposes to take in this regard, and whether he is prepared to come forward with a Bill to constitute a Contingency Fund in this session or even next year. Looking at the financial statement—as I have already stated, I consider this a patently deficit Budget—and the remissions that it provides and the benefits that it provides to certain classes of persons or to certain assesseees, I think there will be very little left in the Budget this year for any Contingency Fund which is contemplated in the Constitution. Therefore, I hope that the hon. the Finance Minister, in the course of his reply, will give some explanation.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I would remind the hon. Member that he is touching on points which might have been relevant during the general discussion. After the Bill has been referred to a Select Committee and after it has come back from the Select Committee, I think the scope of the discussion is considerably narrowed down. What happened in the Select Committee or what ought to have happened there can alone form the basis of discussion.

Shri Biswanath Das: What I have said is within my limits.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I do not think any reference to the Contingency Fund will be relevant at this stage.

Shri Biswanath Das: I will not pursue this. The other question that I want to have some information about is with regard to a Vote of Credit. I do not know whether I am within limits here, but I should like to know

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the reasons why he has not taken a Vote of Credit, whether it is for this year or for the coming year. I must frankly confess that I am not satisfied with the scope that is being afforded to Parliament for discussion on the Finance Bill. I think the right, the unfettered right of hon. Members of this House to discuss thread bare the various aspects of the Finance Bill and the actions of the Ministries concerned cannot be questioned and I think I have a right to demand from him an explanation as to whether he is going to accept the procedure that has been laid down in the Constitution.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I am afraid the hon. Member is going beyond the scope of the discussion. The Select Committee has submitted its report to the House. This may be relevant at the time of the consideration of the motion for reference to Select Committee. After the reference to a Select Committee, these suggestions do not seem to be relevant. The President of the Legislative Assembly remarked on a prior occasion:

"The history of the measure was in order on the motion to refer this Bill to a Select Committee. The Bill has come back from the Select Committee, the House has endorsed the principles of it, and the matter now in issue is whether the Report of the Select Committee be considered and matters arising out of that. All this past history may be very interesting, but it is entirely irrelevant."

And so these things are irrelevant at this stage.

Shri Joachim Alva (Bombay): Am I right in understanding you as saying—not now but previously—that what happened in the Select Committee or should have happened in the Committee can be discussed?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The scope of the discussion after the Select Committee has submitted its report to the House is that the changes made in the Select Committee are open to comments. It is open to any Member to say that such and such changes must have been effected. Such things are relevant. The hon. Member, Shri Biswanath Das, has already taken so many minutes on Contingency Fund and other things. The hon. Speaker has already ruled that each Member will be allowed only 15 minutes.

Shri Biswanath Das: I will confine myself to 15 minutes. I shall not take even 16 minutes.

Since time is short, I shall confine myself only to clause 9 of the Bill, that is about the question of salt, a question which is near and dear to my heart. The Government of India decided, I think, in its Budget for 1946-47 or 1947-48 that they would do away with the salt duty once and for all. This announcement was made on the floor of this Legislature. The then Finance Member to give effect to this intention introduced a Bill for making amendments to the Salt Tax Act. Unfortunately the Central Legislature was dissolved, and the Constituent Assembly was regarded as the Legislature of the Union. Sir, under the circumstances, the Bill lapsed, and unfortunately Government has so far taken no action to introduce a Bill to amend the Salt Tax Act, in the form in which it was intended to be introduced, with the result that the so-called abolition of the salt duty has been an annual fair.

Shri Sidhva: That is not correct.

Shri Biswanath Das: I know that as a Member of the Salt Committee, he will support the Salt cess, but that does not matter. Whatever it is, this annual fair has resulted in one thing, viz., a huge army of officials is being maintained in the Salt Factories, who are the least useful to the salt industry and are not at all necessary even from the point of view of the Government, with the result that they have been a source of annoyance. a

source of obstacle and a source of corruption and blackmarketing in the salt factories. This is not a small sum. I learn from my hon. friend Shri Jagannath Mishra, whom I consider as an expert on all questions relating to salt, that the amount that is being realised by way of a cess of two annas in the Rupee or on every maund of salt manufactured, comes to a crore of rupees. This is being paid by the manufacturers to feed fat this unwanted army of officials that is being kept on for no purpose. Previously, these officers were utilised for collection of the salt duty. Now, you have abolished that duty. What is your responsibility? Your responsibility is nothing, except that it is the undoubted responsibility of the Central and Provincial legislatures to teach the salt manufacturers improved methods of manufacturing salt or to help the manufacturers to manufacture salt on co-operative lines. What is this unwanted army of officials doing? I would appeal to my hon. friend Mr. Sidhva to go in person to these areas and see for himself as a sample of what these officials are doing.

We have, in the salt areas, three sets of people engaged in the manufacture of salt: three sets, in the sense of monopolists who are capitalists akin to the Zamindars. These people are there. It was first the intention of the Government of India to do away with the duty and to take up salt as the first national industry of India. That idea seems to have been given up. I have a right to know from Government whether they are at present going to take up the manufacture of salt as a national industry, with a view to develop its allied industries, or they are going to help these monopolists. Having kept up these monopolists intact, the Provincial Governments are making small efforts to start co-operatives. How can these co-operatives be started? You have got the private manufacturers in terms of the Gandhi-Irwin pact who are manufacturing without paying any cess. They owe no allegiance to you. They can manufacture salt and can carry this salt to the neighbouring markets without being hampered. These are small cottiers. Then, you have got the second class of persons, monopolists who hold the field. They have got all the advantages; they have got the best salt areas. They are being helped by this unwanted army of officials, who are at their disposal, in black-marketing and getting a slice out of it. Then, you have got the co-operatives, which are few and far between. They have got very little help either from the Centre or from the Provinces. They have to face the irksome obstacles and actions of these officers. In terms of the Salt Act, these officials have got very heavy responsibilities. I do not know what responsibilities they have now. They have absolutely no work. They have power to create abundant mischief and the Act gives them all sorts of powers to create mischief and pin-pricks to the salt manufacturers. If you are anxious to establish a network of co-operative societies working in the salt area, if it is your desire to see that the salt manufacturing industry is carried on with the help of cooperatives, on a co-operative basis as against the monopolists that you are having now with a view not only to introduce improved methods of production, but to develop it into a full-fledged industry capable of meeting all the requirements of India, you should change your course of action. You have to mend your ways and means. Therefore, through you, I appeal to hon. Members of this House, especially to the Ministry to decide and take up the necessary action in this regard, without any further delay. The first thing to do in this connection is to do away with this unwanted army of officials.

The House then adjourned for Lunch till Half Past Two of the Clock.

The House re-assembled after Lunch at Half Past Two of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair].

Shri Sidhva: We have been discussing the Budget, the finances of the Government, the administration and the various policies in the last three

[Shri Sidhva]

weeks and we have surveyed the situation very widely. I will not therefore take much time of the House except to refer to one point which during the discussion in the morning my friend Mr. Das has raised. That is about clause 9 of the Bill relating to salt.

My hon. friend stated that the salt duty was abolished in the year 1947, but despite that Government are levying today a kind of cess. I might inform my hon. friend that the duty which was levied by the Government then was at the rate of Rs. 1-9-0 per maund and I would request him to bear in mind that it brought a revenue to the State to the tune of Rs. 10 crores. This two anna cess is not a measure of revenue. After the abolition of the salt duty this two anna cess is levied for the purpose of improvement of the quality of salt and for the purpose of expansion of the salt works. From this cess Government derived in 1948 Rs. 57,44,000 only and not Rs. 1 crore as my friend stated. The cost of establishment of the entire salt administration is Rs. 48,22,000. There is a surplus of Rs. 9 lakhs which is kept for research on salt works. I therefore want to remove the impression that this cess has something to do with the duty. But despite this fact this subject is being discussed by our Salt Advisory Committee and there are different opinions on this matter. Some feel as my friend Mr. Das does, that the cess should be abolished. Before I had gone into the matter I myself was thinking as to why the cess was levied. But when I studied this question I felt that if a Salt Department has to be maintained then this cess is very necessary. And if the Salt Department is to be abolished entirely, let me tell you, Sir, and the House that we shall be manufacturing salt of a quality which will be in many cases detrimental to the interests of the health of the people of this country, because all salt manufactured in the natural course is not fit for human consumption. There is a certain kind of chemical, namely, sodium chloride which experts have stated should be contained to a minimum extent of 94 per cent in salt. We have got laboratories for this purpose. If Government abolish the Salt Department it would mean that they have to abolish these laboratories also. There is salt manufactured in South India and other places which contains less than 90 per cent of sodium chloride which the experts have stated is very harmful. It is unfit for human consumption. For this reason the Salt Department cannot be abolished. I would personally wish that it should be abolished if it were possible, because on the surface it looks when the duty has been abolished why should the Salt Department continue. But when we go into the necessity of keeping the Salt Department, we are confronted with the point that I mentioned just now which makes it necessary for keeping the Department.

Then my hon. friend also referred to the Watch and Ward that was maintained during the existence of the Excise Department. This Excise Department was under the control of the Central Board of Revenue previously and now after the abolition of the salt duty it has come under the Industry and Supply Ministry. It is true that watch and ward is maintained now. But it is not to the same extent as it was during the period when the duty was in force. Some watch and ward is still maintained for the purpose of guiding in the manufacture of salt, at the request of the salt manufacturers. But this point also our Committee is considering in regard to this watch and ward, with which the Government have nothing to do, that if the salt manufacturers feel that they are not wanted they should be abolished and to that extent they should get the relief. So, I may assure my friend that this point is already receiving the attention of the Committee. But it is a very minor point. The cess is levied at the rate of two annas per maund from the private manufacturers

and at the rate of three annas six pies from Government. My friend also raised the question of monopoly. We all know that we have got three big salt works. Government have got one of the biggest at Sambhar Lake. The second is at Kharagoda. The third is at Dharsana. These are the three salt works. And from the 1st of April the Government are taking control of all the salt works in Cutch and Kathiawar. In Kathiawar there is very wide scope. It is to such an extent that not only shall we be self-sufficient if we pay a little more attention but we shall be able to export very large quantities outside for which there is a great demand just now from Japan. Despite the present position Government have issued licences for exports to Japan and some quantities have gone. Some are waiting as the quality is not commensurate with the requirements in Japan. I want to tell the House that if we had not maintained and kept up our quality there would not have been any demand for our salt from outside countries. And if we abolish the laboratories and have no analysing to bring it to the quality required and leave it to be manufactured without such analysis, there would not be any demand from foreign countries. That also is one of the factors to be borne in mind. My friend says "abolish this cess of two annas". And give relief to whom, may I know? Two annas a maund means half a pie per lb. Who is going to get that relief? Nobody is going to give that half a pie to the consumer. If even this benefit went to the consumers I would be the first person to support that. But this half a pie will be taken away by the manufacturer and the middleman. We are maintaining the Department for the good of the country. As such, if we come to the conclusion that the Salt Department is to be maintained, then my hon. friend Dr. Matthai has to provide Rs. 48 lakhs for maintaining this Department. In that case we have no objection to the cess being abolished. But I really feel that it is perfectly correct to levy two annas per maund which is not in any way a burden on the consumer. If my friend talks of the consumer I have shown that it comes to half a pie per lb and you are not going to benefit the consumer by taking it away because the manufacturer and the middleman will be benefited thereby.

Dr. Deshmukh (Madhya Pradesh): The levy is at the rate of four annas.

Shri Sidhva: It is at the rate of three annas six pies in government factories and at the rate of two annas on private manufacture. That is the rate at which the cess is levied. I have taken an average of three annas between two annas and three annas six pies. That is for 82 lbs. and therefore it works out to less than half a pie per lb. My point is this. Although this matter is under consideration of the Salt Advisory Committee, personally I feel—and our Committee also feel—that it would not be in the interests of the Department to abolish this cess. Despite this, the matter is under consideration of the Committee and if the Committee feel that it should go, I can assure my friend that it will go. But I am only expressing my own view-point. Whatever is the majority decision of the Committee, certainly it will be accepted. As I said, I am only mentioning my own personal view after having gone into this matter.

Shri Jagannath Mishra (Orissa): May I know if besides this cess of two annas per maund, the annual repair and the maintenance of the staff quarters and also the cost of construction of such buildings, medical aid to the staff and supply of drinking water and all other things are also the liabilities of the licensee?

Shri Sidhva: The entire departmental cost is Rs. 48,26,000. That includes everything—the staff, the relief to them etc. I might tell you that in the government salt works there are dispensaries, schools and all facilities provided for the *agarias*. I might also tell the House that at Dharsana and Kharagoda where salt is manufactured by the *agarias*, that is the peasants, they have got their own credit societies. I have given them

[Shri Sidhva]

the greatest impetus. They are manufacturing, they are selling, they have got a society, they have got their salesmen, and they are conducting everything from top to bottom by themselves. We must really give credit that Government is maintaining this sort of an arrangement instead of giving monopolies. Of course, there is a monopoly in the Sambhar Lake area given to a particular class of people. We are looking into it. But these two factories are actually maintained by these *agarias* who manufacture salt.

Then coming to monopolies to which also my friend referred, that question is also receiving the consideration of the Committee. I do agree with my friend Mr. Das that in certain aspects of private manufacture there are monopolies. Those monopolies had been created by the State Governments. The State Governments have actually got a system whereby a licence to manufacture can be granted but the salt is despatched to the nominees of the State Government. This has created a great deal of heart-burning. Apart from that arrangement, the supply of bags in some areas is also controlled by the Salt Department. I have asked the Committee why we should take all this responsibility on our shoulders; we are to look after the proper manufacture of good quality salt and expansion of production. We have come into existence only in the past four months and I can assure the House that we are taking the greatest pains. In this matter of bagging, my personal view is that the bagging system should be kept free; let those who want to supply the bags supply them. Actually, there has been such an amount of discontent and the Administration was maligned that officials were concerned in supplying these bags and all sorts of charges were levelled. Therefore, we have come to the conclusion—at least I personally have come to the conclusion—that the supply of bags by the State should be immediately stopped. I am sure when this matter comes up before the Advisory Committee, they will endorse this view.

As regards the other system of the State Government's nominees, we have called a meeting of the Committee on the 9th April for this purpose. Personally, I feel that this system should be abolished and licences should be granted to those who know the business and who could expand production of the proper quality of salt.

These are the points that I really wanted to draw your attention to because there were two or three references to them both today and during the Budget discussion. I wanted to remove the impression that the cess is levied for the purpose of revenue—there is nothing of the kind. I shall close my remarks with the Committee's decision on this to further satisfy the hon. Members as to what the Committee is doing. This subject was considered by the Committee as far back as the 20th October, and we have resolved:

"The Committee discussed the question of cess and the majority were of the opinion that the existence of the Salt Department was necessary for regulating production and co-ordinating the supply of salt to different areas as well as for giving technical advice and assistance to the manufactures for general improvement of the quality, and as such some form of revenue must be realised from salt produced for the maintenance of the Department. The following suggestions were, however, made....."

The suggestions were with regard to Watch and Ward. Then, salt is used for chemical purposes and heavy chemicals people have applied to us asking that they should be exempt from the cess. They consume large quantities.

These are some of the points on which I wanted to remove any wrong impression. The cess is not a duty, nor is it a revenue. It is a cess which

is required in the interests of the manufacture of the right quality of salt. I do not want to take time on the other contentious points raised regarding this motor business, but I only want to say one word, with your permission, that the Committee was appointed by the Ministry of Industry and Supply in the month of May 1949 to investigate this matter; they have by a very large majority decided that there should not be any extra levy of duty for this purpose. Only one Member has put in a dissenting note and Government today are supporting that minority report by increasing this duty which will adversely affect to a very great extent the living standard of the people for this reason that the freights and fares will increase.

Shri Biswanath Das: Sir, may I just ask a question?

Mr. Speaker: Let other Members have an opportunity of discussing the Bill. Whatever the hon. Member may have said, he may discuss it with him later on. There are so many hon. Members who would like to give their viewpoints, and I want to give chances to those who have not spoken till now in this House.

Shri P. K. Ramiah (Madras): I rise to appeal to the Government and to the hon. Finance Minister at this stage of discussion on the Finance Bill, to provide more funds for the development of the backward areas, now called the Scheduled Areas under the new Constitution, and for ameliorative measures to benefit the inhabitants of those areas. These areas have been dubbed backward by the former Government for various reasons. Now it should be the duty of our Government to bring out a plan for the speedy development of these areas in order to bring them on a par with the rest of the country. Unless the Centre provides large sums of money for this purpose, the States by themselves cannot undertake the sole responsibility of carrying out this development; the States cannot undertake the financial burden all by themselves. The initiative, I think, should come from this Government, unless they hesitate to undertake big schemes for the speedy development of these areas.

Before I resume my seat, I take this opportunity of appealing to the Planning Commission also to keep in mind these areas which have been kept backward and undeveloped by the former Government. It is the duty of the Planning Commission to formulate a comprehensive scheme to develop these areas as part of the nation-building programme.

With these few words, I support the Finance Bill.

Sardar Sochet Singh (P.E.P.S.U.): My complaint against the performance of the Finance Minister is from a different angle and standpoint. It is that at no stage has any note been taken of the large volume of legitimate and well-grounded criticism that has been voiced by a large number of hon. Members of this House. The Bill has gone to and come back from the Select Committee, but the main difficulty and complaint persist. The urban bias of the Budget has been still more confirmed. The rural sections, particularly the agriculturists and *kisans*, are confirmed in their belief that they can expect only a step-motherly treatment.

Sir, ours is a Union—a Union of States, a Union of people, a Union of interests and sections,—and any Governmental dispensation that does not do evenhanded justice to all sections of the people is sure to be received with regret and dismay. We have to see whether our Union is being strengthened or weakened by social injustice and discrimination. The practical starvation and retardation of irrigation schemes like the Bhakra, Damodar Valley and Hirakud are positively delaying the improvement in our rural and agricultural economy. Besides the possible cleavage among

[Sardar Sochet Singh]

urban and rural sections, which is likely to be fanned into flames by ill-wishers of the State, we have to guard against all those acts and gestures which may go against the security and health of our Union.

May I ask the hon. the Finance Minister whether he really expects to benefit the industries by starving all avenues of production of raw materials. May I know how the textile mills will work without cotton, the jute mills without jute, and the sugar factories without sugarcane?

One is constrained to remark that the jeep of the hon. the Finance Minister is going on a wrong track. It is the use of a wrong track that has made the jeep, which according to the speedometer records the running for only 31 months, looks as if it were ten years old. I am one of those who are convinced that an owner-driven jeep should have presented a better condition.

Now, I come to another point which does not deal directly with finance but with the administration, which finance feeds. Our greatest pride in this country is the process of integration, and we look askance at any sign of a policy that may have the semblance of leading to disintegration. Our political integration is perfect and ideal. The territorial integration is also rational and scientific except in a few cases where I hope the position will be rectified as soon as the considerations that are valid today (like communalism and other things) will not be valid any longer. The step that is going to be taken for the integration of the Army is a desirable one. But there is one point in the coming integration of the Army which may cause some amount of hardship and injustice. The Indian States Forces did not have British or Non-Indian officers and with the quitting of the Britishers there has been no accelerated promotion in the Indian States Forces. The Selection Boards which have to judge and test the efficiency and fitness of the officers of the Indian States Forces are to be composed of very young officers who have put in between 15 and 20 years of service, while the officers who have to appear before these Selection Boards are some of them war veterans. There are Majors with 25 years service and Colonels with 30 years service in the Indian States Forces. It is but human nature that when these young officers examine these old veterans they would be guided by their own personal interest namely that if they take on these old people their own seniority would be affected. It is but human nature. So they would think twice before recommending them for selection. The result would be that there was a danger that our Army after integration might lose a good deal of talent, experience and many good points. Therefore, my humble suggestion is that retired officers of the Indian Army and the States Forces should constitute the Selection Boards, so that they would be above personal bias and would do evenhanded justice to those officers of the Indian States Forces who have to be integrated into the Indian Army.

Another point which is to a certain extent weakening our Union is provincialism and favouritism which is manifest even in the Central Government under the very nose of this House. If the official language of a Minister's office were to be his provincial language, one could understand that he would like to pick and choose officers from his own province, but English at present and Hindi in future being the official language of this country, I do not understand why a Bengali Minister should have a majority of Bengalis and a Sindhi Minister a majority of Sindhis and so on and so forth in his Ministerial staff.

Dr. Deshmukh: Except Maharashtriyans.

Prof. Ranga: Maharashtriyans also.

Sardar Sochet Singh: This is a thing which we are seeing daily. The complaint is general and universal and anybody who runs through Delhi will see that such a state of affairs exists. I would request the President, the Leader of the House—the Prime Minister—and the Deputy Prime Minister to check up on these posts in the various Ministries and remove this provincialism and favouritism. Next to communalism, this is another fell disease which is eating into the vitals of our body politic.

Shri Tyagi (Uttar Pradesh): But you have forgotten the Sikh Minister.

Sardar Sochet Singh: There is no love lost between him and the Punjabis and Sikhs.

Another point to which I wish to refer is this. During the last war, a large number of persons in services volunteered for war service. At that time, they were given a definite assurance that their service in the Army would not in any way operate against their promotion. But it is common ground that those people who offered their services during the war have been superseded and persons junior to them are above them while they are still junior. There is a good deal of discontent, particularly in the Railways, where a number of Medical Officers joined war service and their juniors have been promoted during their absence. Many a file is tossed from one office to another but no redress is forthcoming. This is a point which should be gone into immediately before we can have a healthy and strong Union that is not afflicted by any unhealthy or anti-national canker.

With these few words, I support the Finance Bill and request the hon. the Finance Minister to be more liberal in future to rural economy, because ultimately the prosperity and strength of a nation depends upon the condition of its peasantry.

Shri T. N. Singh (Uttar Pradesh): I have been listening very carefully and attentively to the speeches delivered during the various stages of the Budget. At this the last stage of the Budget, it is but proper that we should confine ourselves to the principal taxation proposals. The Select Committee has done a fairly good job in improving upon the original proposals and the fact that they have accepted some of the suggestions made in the House shows a very good spirit of accommodation. In spite of all this, I feel that the amendments to this question of duty on motor vehicles and parts has not come up to our expectations. I must frankly

3 P.M. admit that there is in our minds a certain amount of hesitation in lending our support to an industry which has not even begun functioning. It is an open secret that what we call motor industry in this country constitutes just one or two factories for assembling parts of motor vehicles imported from foreign countries. They are not fully manufacturing concerns yet I find that completely assembled vehicles are charged a much lower duty, while their parts and components are charged a higher rate. The duty on a motor lorry, if it is imported completely assembled, is 30 per cent. Now, if it comes incompletely assembled, then the duty goes up to 60 per cent. I have a suspicion, that those who are assembling these vehicles do not need the parts for a year and for that reason it is immaterial what duty is levied on them.

Sir, in Uttar Pradesh we have got a well-developed motor transport system run by Government. Now, there are thousands of buses running. To maintain them in a running condition our own State Government will be put to a very heavy expenditure and the actual burden of this taxation will ultimately fall on the user of these vehicles. It may suit the Central Government's finances to impose this duty. But speaking from the point of view of the Provincial Governments which have started these services and also of the poor and the middle-classes, the revised duty would only stifle these services? Thus you are trying to hit those infant services which the Provincial Government have started.

[Shri T. N. Singh]

Secondly, as regards the industry itself, I said in the very beginning this industry has not yet begun to function. There are hardly one or two factories which have started. The General Motors which assembles American cars will now be out of business because we cannot afford to get these vehicles from the dollar area. There are one or two firms which assemble British cars. But they too are not manufacturing the parts on which a heavy duty of 90 per cent. has been placed. It is probably the intention of Government to encourage this factory, because next to iron, coal and textiles this is a key industry which wants State encouragement. By all means, do give them all encouragement. But not at the expense of the larger interests of the country. It is, perhaps, possible that these firms have got plenty of stocks of these spares, and therefore there is no necessity of importing them for some time to come. If that is not so, the motor transport industry will be affected in the sense that prices will go up and consequently the number of buyers will go down, which is not good for any business. For all these reasons, I hope Government will reconsider their decision and try to modify it.

There is another small point that I want to refer to. In regard to the excise duty on jute, I find that in the old schedule there is mention of 'cuttings' which has been altogether omitted in the amended schedule. This is a small point and as I am not quite conversant with the mysteries of these schedules, I do not wish to lay any emphasis. But all the same I hope it will be looked into.

Now, I come to the general question of taxation. I am not a professor or ex-professor of Economics like my hon. friend the Finance Minister, nor do I claim much knowledge of that subject. But there are certain points in connection with revision of taxation which come before every Finance Minister. In the first place, he has to see while adjusting and revising taxes, whether there is need for eliminating any anomalies that may be existing or that may have arisen due to changed phases of economic life. Then he has to see that the incidence of taxation is such that the people of different categories are able to bear it.

In advanced countries like U. K. the system of taxation is used with a view to correcting defects in distribution. At least there is an effort to levy taxes in such a way that accumulation of money or wealth in a particular class of people may be checked to the extent possible. The Finance Minister is in a better position to know the possibilities of its application to our country. As the Finance Minister rightly pointed out, the taxation in our country is on a much higher level than the economy of the country can stand. I perfectly agree with that statement. He also says that the present level of taxation is not disinflationary, but positively inflationary. I agree with that too. But there is a limit to which you can encourage production, or control inflation by methods of taxation. After all production is a process in which two factors are involved—the human element and the raw material. It is the will of the people to work that is more important than any adjustment of taxes. Somehow or other the Finance Minister's speech has raised hopes in certain quarters that this Budget with its modifications and reduction in burdens on certain income groups will lead to better production in our country. I think that is depending too much on this taxation machinery. Then, about this inflation also, you can take it from me that if money which is either collected by the Government or left with the people to be utilised in spending, is allowed to be spent, you cannot fight inflation. Inflation can be fought only if the total currency in circulation is reduced or if there is a correspondingly greater increase in

production. I beg to differ from you that the modified taxation measures will materially help in fighting the inflationary trend in the country. I feel, Sir, that we have to revise the whole thing on a different basis. I am glad that the hon. the Finance Minister had that in mind when he said that a Committee is sitting to assess our national income and its distribution. In England, during the war period, a system was introduced by which it became necessary to assess the nation's income individual-wise and its expenditure before budgeting and it was found that, after providing for the necessary national expenditure, there was a balance on the income side which the Government had the right to tax. I hope I am correct in interpreting what was done there. But here we cannot even get a correct estimate of this. With our inadequate statistical organisation we cannot do this.

However, for the present, with a view to fighting inflation and encouraging industrial production, it will not be amiss if I make a few suggestions. I think it is necessary for checking inflation to withdraw a certain amount of money from circulation. We can do this by extending the system of compulsory provident fund to non-Government employees also. We are now exempting from the payment of income-tax people getting up to Rs. 300 per mensem. The result of this will be that you will leave with those people 9 pies more on every rupee that they will have. This sum could easily be contributed by them towards a compulsory provident fund for their own good as well.

As regards agriculture I have a suggestion to make and that is that on the lines of the war risk insurance, you should introduce a system of insurance to which people with more than 25 acres could contribute as a sort of crop insurance or pest insurance. If we could collect money from the agriculturists on this account, that amount would be available for increasing production and circulation of money could to that extent be reduced. I think this may be done. I had one or two more suggestions to make. But as my time limit is over I resume my seat.

श्री ज्ञानी राम : माननीय सभापति महोदय, आपने मुझे जो फाईनेन्स बिल (Finance Bill) पर बोलने का अवसर दिया है उसके लिये मैं आपका कृतज्ञ हूँ। अर्थ मंत्री महोदय ने फाईनेन्स बिल हमारे समक्ष पेश किया है, मैं उनकी हास्य रस कला का, अर्थ नीति का नहीं सराहना करे वगैर नहीं रह सकता कि उन्होंने किस तरह अपनी उस कला का प्रदर्शन करते हुए संसद् के माननीय सदस्यों को प्रमुदित करते हुए अपनी सब मांगों को पास करा लिया।

जब मैं फाईनेन्स बिल तथा बजट (Budget) दोनों का मिलान कर के गम्भीरता पूर्वक विचार करता हूँ और अन्वेषण करता हूँ तो देखने में आता है कि उसमें दो भिन्न भाग मिलते हैं। एक ओर तो पूँजीपतियों को, धनिकों को सुविधायें दी गई हैं, दूसरी ओर किसानों तथा मजदूरों को हानि क्षति पहुँचाई गयी है। यह तो संसार का नियम चला आता है कि एक की हानि होती है और दूसरे का लाभ होता है। इस संबंध में मैं दो चार उदाहरण देता हूँ जिससे अमीरों को पूँजीपतियों को सुविधा मिली है। पहले तो उन लोगों को इनकम टैक्स (income tax) में जो छूट दी गई है वह करीब पन्द्रह करोड़ के है। पन्द्रह करोड़ की यह छूट इस उम्मीद से दी गई है कि मध्यम श्रेणी के व्यापारी तथा धनिक लोग

[श्री ज्ञानी राम]

जो जनमत के अधिकारी हैं, अपना मत सरकार के पक्ष में देंगे लेकिन यह विचार नहीं किया गया कि जितने इनकमटैक्स पेयर्स (income-tax payers), होंगे, देने वाले होंगे यह सिर्फ व्यापारिक लोग तथा शहर वाले ही होंगे, किसान जो देहातों में रहते हैं उनके जनमत का कोई विचार नहीं किया गया है।

अर्थ मंत्री महोदय ने इनकम टैक्स के विषय में जो बिल (Bill) रक्खा है उसमें पहले भाषण करते हुए और बजट के समय भाषण करते हुए उन्होंने कहा है कि इनकमटैक्स की रेट (Rate) भारतवर्ष में और देशों से कम है, लेकिन उन्होंने देश के अन्य प्रान्तों की टैक्स की नीति का अध्ययन करने में कोई कष्ट नहीं किया है। बिहार प्रान्त को ही ले लीजिये, बिहार में एग्रीकल्चरल इनकमटैक्स (Agricultural income-tax) तीन हजार पर लगाया जाता है और यहां सेन्टर (Centre) में इनकमटैक्स बहत्तर सौ रुपये पर बिठाया जा रहा है, नतीजा इसका क्या होगा। इस नीति को देखते हुए कोई मनुष्य खास करके खेती में रुपया नहीं लगायेगा वहां तीन हजार पर लगेगा और यहां ७२०० अनडिवाइडेड हिन्दू फ़ैमिली (Undivided Hindu family) पर पड़ेगा। खेती में रुपया लगाने से कितनी त्रुटि होती है उसमें बहुत खतरा रहता है खेती में तो पूरा डूब जाता है। मैं इस विषय पर आनरेबिल (honourable) मंत्री महोदय से अनुरोध करूंगा कि वह इस पर ध्यान देंगे कि प्रान्तों और यहां की टैक्स की दरों में कितना अन्तर है और प्रान्तीय टैक्सों की नीति का भी विचार रखेंगे जिसमें सारे देश में टैक्स की नीति का सामंजस्य रहे। और यह जो चौदह पन्द्रह करोड़ रुपये की छूट दी गई है, इसका असर भी गरीबों पर पड़ेगा।

अर्थ मंत्री महोदय ने एक निपुण गणितज्ञ की भांति बजट में यह दिखलाया है कि केन्द्रीय सरकार को सिर्फ सात करोड़ की त्रुटि होगी लेकिन यह बात नहीं है, इसका फल प्रान्तीय फ़ाईनेन्स (Finance) पर भी पड़ता है। उत्तरप्रदेश में अभी सिंचाई विभाग में एक करोड़ तेतालीस लाख की कमी की गई है, बिहार प्रान्त में २६ लाख की कमी की गई है। सरकार ने इस आशा से उन लोगों को छूट दी है कि सरकारी खजाने में वे लोग रुपये से सरकार को सहायता करेंगे, लेकिन मैं कहता हूं कि इसमें उनको सफलता नहीं मिलेगी। दुख की बात है कि भारतवर्ष में मुद्रा स्फीति की बहलता होते हुए भी सरकारी खजाने खाली हैं और हमें विदेशों से कर्ज लेना पड़ता है। साधारण बात है कि कोई मनुष्य जिसके घर में स्त्री पुत्र के पास पैसा हो और उसे पैसा नहीं मिले और वह बाहर चला जाये यह कोई विचार शील पुरुष का कार्य नहीं कहा जा सकता है।

इससे मालूम होता है कि उनका उस परिवार वालों से अच्छा सम्बन्ध नहीं है अथवा उसके ऊपर विश्वास नहीं करते हैं।

अब यहां मोटर टैक्सेशन (Motor-taxation) बढ़ा दिया गया है। एक प्रकार से बिहार प्रान्त में भी मोटर टैक्स बिठाया गया है। वहां एग्रीकल्चरल सेल्स टैक्स (Agricultural Sales Tax) उठाने के कारण मोटर कम्पनियों (Motor-Companies) पर टैक्स बिठाया गया है जिसका प्रभाव बहुत खराब पड़ेगा। गरीबों को अधिक धन देना पड़ेगा और जो मोटर गाड़ी ट्रक्स (Trucks) वागैरह चल रही हैं उन पर अधिक कठिनाई होगी। इसका असर अन्त में गरीबों पर पड़ेगा।

अब मैं पोस्टल डिपार्टमेंट (Postal Department) की नीति के सम्बन्ध में कहता हूँ। पोस्टल डिपार्टमेंट में आप गरीबों को छूट नहीं दे रहे हैं। यदि पोस्ट कार्ड (post-card) का दाम तीन पैसे से दो पैसे कर दिया जाय तो उसमें गरीब और अमीर सभी का भला होगा। लेकिन उसके लिये तो आप कहते हैं कि उसमें बहुत कठिनाई होगी। अमीरों और व्यवसायियों को छूट मिलती है तब तो कुछ भी कठिनाई नहीं होती लेकिन गरीबों को छूट देने में यह कठिनाई आ जाती है। इससे तो मालूम होता है कि जिस तरह भेड़िये को भेड़ के बच्चे को खाने के लिये कोई न कोई बहाना ढूँढ लिया जाता है उसी तरह गरीबों को रिआयत नहीं देने के लिये यह कारण ढूँढ लेते हैं। लेकिन अमीरों को जब रिआयत देनी होती है, मध्यम श्रेणियों के व्यवसायियों को यदि छूट देनी होती है तो आप सीधे सीधे १५ करोड़ रुपये की छूट दे देते हैं और कुछ परवाह नहीं करते हैं। गरीबों का आप कुछ भी फायदा नहीं करते हैं।

Mr. Speaker: One minute more.

श्री ज्ञानी राम : पांच मिनट और दीजिये। हम कभी नहीं बोले हैं।

मि० स्पीकर : वह तो ठीक बात है लेकिन दूसरों को भी मौका देना है।

श्री ज्ञानी राम : अन्त में मैं इतना ही अर्थमन्त्री से अनुरोध करूंगा कि गरीबों के लिए पोस्टकार्ड में एक पैसा कम कर दें, दो पैसा रख दें। लोग कहेंगे कि अमीरों को तो १५ करोड़ रुपये की छूट दे दी लेकिन अर्थ मन्त्री महोदय ने गरीबों के लिए एक पैसे की भी छूट नहीं दी। मैं आपसे यही कहूंगा कि आप गरीबों के दुःखों की अवहेलना नहीं करें। उनके हृदय जर्जरित हो चुके हैं। यदि अब भी आप उनकी अवहेलना करेंगे तो उनके अश्रुपात से जो ज्वार उठेगा उसमें हम सभी प्रवाहित हो जायेंगे। हम और आप कोई नहीं बचेगा और कांग्रेस संस्था जो सब की इतनी प्यारी संस्था है वह भी नहीं बच पावेगी।

(English translation of the above speech)

Shri Jnani Ram (Bihar): Sir, I thank you for giving this opportunity to me to speak on the Finance Bill. At the very outset I cannot but express my admiration for the humour and tactfulness, though certainly not for his general financial policy, with which the hon. Minister of Finance has piloted the Finance Bill brought before the House earlier by himself and also for the way he has managed to get all his demands passed by delighting the hon. Members' minds out of sheer humour.

A close study, a calm consideration and a careful analysis of the Finance Bill and the Budget proposals taken together reveal to me the existence of two distinct parts therein. Whereas more concessions have been conceded to the capitalists, deliberately or otherwise, harm has been done to the interests of the peasants and the labouring classes. It is perhaps because in this world one's advancement is possible only at the expense of the other. Such indeed has been a way with the world from times immemorial. I may cite here some instances where relief has been given to the rich and to the capitalists. Firstly a concession amounting to as much as fifteen crores of rupees has been given to them by way of Income-tax. The hope underlying the idea of conceding this concession appears to be that the middle-class businessmen and the richer sections of our people who are generally the mainstay of any democratic set-up, will cast their votes in favour of the present Government at some future date. No regard has, however, been paid to the fact that it is the businessmen and people of urban areas who constitute the bulk of Income-tax payers. The votes of 'kisans' living in the countryside have, therefore, been ignored completely.

The hon. Minister of Finance, while speaking previously on the Bill regarding Income-tax and later on the Budget itself, made an observation that the rate of Income-tax in India is very low as compared to other countries. He has however taken no pains to study the line of policy which our states have taken in this behalf. Take the case of Bihar. The Agricultural income-tax there starts from Rs. 3,000/- upwards while here in Centre, it is being levied on incomes more than Rs. 7,200/-. What will be the effects thereof? Because of this vast anomaly, none will invest money specially in agriculture. There the levy starts from Rs. 3,000/- while here the undivided Hindu families with incomes over Rs. 7,200/- only will be subjected to such a tax. There is, as we know well, a complete risk involved in investments in agriculture. I will emphasise upon the hon. Minister to note this vast anomaly between tax-rates at the Centre and those in the states and also the general policy of the States in this respect so that a uniformity of basis may be obtained inasmuch as the general Taxation-policy is concerned. I may, again, warn you that the burden of this concession of 14 to 15 crores of rupees will ultimately have to be borne by the poor.

The hon. Minister of Finance, like a clever mathematician, has been able to show that the Centre will suffer on this score really a deficit of seven crores of rupees only. It is, however, contrary to the facts. Such a step will have its repercussions on the States' Finances as well. Recently a reduction amounting to Rs. 1,43,00,000 has been effected on the demands of the Department of Agriculture of Uttar Pradesh whereas in the case of Bihar it has been as much as Rs. 26,00,000/-. The Government's hopes in conceding such concession have been that those people will help the Government financially by bringing more and more of money in Government treasuries. But I may warn them that such hopes may not materialize. It is, indeed, a painful matter to note that Government treasuries should continue to be empty in spite of so much inflation of currency in

this country, in consequence of which we become forced to borrow from other countries. To provide a common-place example, the act of a person who feels compelled to seek outside financial aid because he cannot get money from his own wife and son who have enough of that is sure to be considered as the act of an unwise person. If anything this only indicates that the relations between the family-members are none too pleasant and that the rest of them have no confidence in the person concerned.

Further, motor-taxation has now been enhanced here. In a way Bihar also levies some sort of a similar taxation. A tax has been levied on the motor-companies there to meet the deficit caused by the abolition of Agricultural Sales-Tax. This will have a very much adverse effect on the poor who will have to pay more money and consequently their difficulty to avail the facilities in respect of journey by motor-buses, trucks etc. will increase. The ultimate burden, therefore, will have to be borne by the poor again.

Now I wish to say something about the line of policy adopted by the Ministry of Communications. There too, you are not conceding any concession to the poor. If the price of post-card is reduced from three to two pice, both the rich and the poor will stand to benefit. You, however, maintain that it is indeed very difficult to agree to that proposal. It is a strange phenomenon that you do not feel any such difficulty while giving concessions to the rich and big business but there comes in your way every-time a difficulty when a plea for relief to the poor is made. It gives the impression that excuses are rather found to counteract all such pleas for relief to the poor just in the way a wolf seeks some sort of pretext to justify his devouring of a lamb. You do not mind the least to give straightaway concessions to the tune of 15 crores of rupees to the rich and middle-class businessmen, but at no time you think of doing any good to the poor as well.

Mr. Speaker: One minute more.

Shri Jnani Ram: Five minutes more may be given to me as I have never spoken before.

Mr. Speaker: That is all right but others have also to be given an opportunity.

Shri Jnani Ram: In conclusion, I will stress only this much upon the hon. Minister of Finance as to reduce the price of post-card by one pice and bring it to two pice only. People may complain that, whereas huge concessions totalling almost 15 crores of rupees have been conceded to the rich, the hon. Minister has not agreed even to a one-pice relief to the poor. I warn you against being so much unmindful of the difficulties or sorrows of the poor. Theirs are much grief-stricken hearts at present. If even now you continue to exhibit such indifference towards their sorrowful tears, then complete woe betide us. None will be able to escape the fate then, not even the Congress which at present happens to be so much beloved an organisation of the people.

श्री अंसारी : मैं इस फाइनेन्स बिल (Finance Bill) में यह देखता हूँ कि जितनी रियायत अमीरों के साथ की गयी है वह गरीबों के साथ नहीं। हमारे हिन्दुस्तान में ५ लाख गांव हैं और वहाँ किस्म किस्म की काटेज इंडस्ट्रीज (Cottage Industries) हैं। आज हमारे देश में यह मांग है और लोग कह रहे हैं कि देश में चीजों की पैदावार को बढ़ाओ, ज्यादा चीजें पैदा करो। लेकिन हम उस काटेज इंडस्ट्री की तरफ़ यानी कोऑपरेटिव (Co-operative) की तरफ़ ज्यादा

[श्री अंसारी]

ध्यान नहीं देकर इन पूंजीपतियों की तरफ ध्यान दे रहे हैं और उनकी खुशामद के लिए जो भी करना होता है वह करते हैं। लेकिन मैं आपसे कहता हूँ कि आप उनकी जितनी भी खुशामद चाहें करें लेकिन वह आपके पत्ले नहीं आने वाले हैं और वह इस ढंग से काम करेंगे कि हर साल आपको कुछ उनके साथ और रिआयत करनी पड़े। अब आप इनकम टैक्स (Income Tax) में ही देखिये कि आपके साथ उन्होंने कितनी दयानतदारी के साथ काम किया। आपके पास कितने इनकम टैक्स के मामले पड़े हुए हैं लेकिन वह इसके देने में कितने हीले हवाले कर रहे हैं। यह क्या उनकी इसी पालिसी (policy) का नतीजा नहीं है। आप कहते हैं कि उनका सहयोग पाने के लिए आप छूट दे रहे हैं। अगर वह आपका साथ दें तो बहुत अच्छी बात है और इससे देश की उन्नति भी होगी। लेकिन मैं यह कहता हूँ कि शायद कहीं आपका यह ख्याल गलत नहीं हो जाये और यह जो रिआयत आप दे रहे हैं उसके बाद वह कहीं और ज्यादा रिआयत न मांगने लगे और आपकी रिआयत और ज्यादा न बढ़ जाय। मैं आपको यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि यहां आल इंडिया कोऑपरेटिव एग्जीबीशन (All India Co-operative Exhibition) चल रही है वहां जाने से यह मालूम होता है कि हमारे देश में कोऑपरेटिव सोसाइटीज (Co-operative Societies) या काटेज इंडस्ट्रीज (Cottage Industries) ने कितनी तरक्की की है। सिर्फ यह आवश्यक है कि उनकी दिलजोई की जाय। अगर उनकी तरफ मदद नहीं की जाय तो यह हो सकता है कि जिस हालत में वह आज है उससे गिर जाय। वरना आप वहां जाकर देखेंगे तो मालूम होगा कि वह दूसरे देशों से कम नहीं हैं। यदि उनकी उन्नति की जाय और जितना ध्यान आप पूंजीपतियों की तरफ देते हैं उनकी तरफ ध्यान दें तो शायद हमारा मुल्क तरक्की करने में बहुत आगे बढ़ जायगा। लेकिन अफसोस है कि इसकी तरफ ज्यादा ख्याल नहीं किया जाता है।

अब आप देहात के लोगों को लीजिये। आपने पोस्टकार्ड (Post-card) का दो पैसा कर दिया है। लेकिन यूनीफार्म स्कीम (uniform scheme) नहीं रखी है। आपका कहना है कि लोकली (locally) दो पैसा रखा जायगा। मैं यह कहता हूँ कि आपके देहात में कितने लोग पढ़े लिखे हैं। देहात में कितने लोग लिखना जानते हैं। ज्यादा लोग जाहिल हैं, मूर्ख हैं। वह क्या पोस्टकार्ड लिखेंगे। इससे तो उन्हीं साहूकारों को फायदा पहुंचता है जिनको दो सौ चार सौ पोस्टकार्ड लिखने होते हैं। आपने सीधी तरह से फायदा पहुंचाया या घुमा फिरा कर पहुंचाया। लेकिन फायदा उन्हीं को पहुंचता है। आप तरह तरह से उन्हीं पूंजीपतियों को फायदा पहुंचा रहे हैं। मैं यह कहता हूँ कि आप उनकी खुशामद करने के बजाय

यदि ज्यादा ध्यान इन गरीबों की तरफ देते तो ठीक था। अगर आपको कुछ रियायत गरीबों के साथ करनी थी तो वह यूनीफार्म होनी चाहिये थी ताकि सबको फायदा पहुंचता। लेकिन आपने कंडीशन (condition) रख दी है कि लोकली (Locally) दो पैसे होंगे वरना तीन पैसे। यह विजनसमैन के फायदे की ही चीज है।

अब मैं यह कहना चाहता हूं कि आपने काटेज इंडस्ट्रीज में मंच काटेज इंडस्ट्री (Match Cottage Industry) को कुछ रियायत दी है : खैर, यह कुछ तसल्ली की बात है। लेकिन आप देखेंगे कि हमारे देश में टुबाको (tobacco) तम्बाकू, काफी होती है और तम्बाकू की इंडस्ट्रीज इतनी हैं कि जिनमें लाखों आदमी काम करते हैं और अपनी जीविका उससे चलाते हैं। लेकिन आपने तम्बाकू की तरफ कोई खास प्रोटेक्शन (protection) नहीं दिया है। आपने जो मंच फ़ैक्ट्रीज (Match Factories) की तरफ कुछ रियायत की है तो मैं समझता हूं कि तमाम प्रांतों में यह फ़ैक्टरीज नहीं है। दो चार प्रांतों में हैं और कुछ लोगों को ही इससे फ़ायदा होगा और होना भी चाहिये, यह कुछ तसल्ली है। लेकिन आज हमारे तमाम देश में तम्बाकू की फ़ैक्ट्रीज हैं और तम्बाकू का इस्तेमाल हर किस्म से होता है। कोई पान में, कोई सिगरेट में, कोई बीड़ी में और कोई स्नफ़ (snuff) में किसी न किसी किस्म में इसका इस्तेमाल करता है। इसकी तरफ ध्यान दिया जाता तो जनता को इससे फ़ायदा पहुंचता। लेकिन इसकी तरफ आपने जरा भी ध्यान नहीं दिया है।

हम एक बात और यह कह देना चाहते हैं कि हमारे यहां छोटा नागपुर में बहुत से मिनरल रिसोर्सेज (mineral resources) हैं। लेकिन उनकी तरफ कोई ध्यान नहीं दिया गया है। अगर उसकी तरफ ध्यान दिया जाता और रिसोर्सेज को यूटीलाइज (utilize) किया जाता तो देश की तरबकी में और भी बढ़ोतरी होती। लेकिन इसकी तरफ उतना ध्यान नहीं किया गया है जितना करना चाहिये था।

साथ साथ मैं यह भी कहना चाहता हूं कि जब हम जानते हैं कि हमारे हिन्दुस्तान में पढ़े लिखे लोग बहुत कम हैं तो इसकी तरफ, यानी पढ़ने लिखने की तरफ भी कुछ करना चाहिये था और यह अच्छा मौका था कि हिन्दी को तमाम जगह फैलाया जाता और उसके वास्ते खास इन्तजाम किया जाता। यह नहीं किया जाता तो यह पोस्टफ़ाई का दाम कम करना बेकार होगा। क्योंकि जब लोग पढ़ना लिखना ही नहीं जानते तो खत कैसे लिख सकते हैं। इस लिये मैं कहंगा कि आइन्दा जब भी मौका हो देहात के लोगों की तरफ ज्यादा ध्यान दिया जाय। बस, मुझे यही कहना था।

(English translation of the above speech)

Shri Ansari (Bihar): I note that concessions have been conceded more to the rich than to the poor in the Finance Bill under discussion. India has approximately five lacs of villages where cottage industries of multiple kinds happen to exist. There is a general demand at present in this country for increasing an all-round production of articles. Our thoughts, however, are directed more towards the appeasement and flattery of the capitalists than towards furthering the cause of cottage industry which in other words means working on co-operative basis. We do all sorts of things to placate them. I may warn you that they are not the kind of people who will come round your view-point, despite your best efforts to appease them. They will continue to work in a manner which may make you concede concession of one kind or the other every year. For instance you can see the honesty of purpose and intention with which they have behaved in the matter of income-tax. Many income-tax cases are pending with you because of their various pretentions and excuses to make payments. It is surely a part of their policy. According to you, the concessions are being conceded to secure their co-operation. If they co-operate with you, it will be a much welcomed thing and the country too will prosper. I, however, have my fears that, encouraged by this concession, they may demand further concessions to which you may perhaps agree. My submission is that the All India Co-operative Exhibition opened in Delhi indicates fairly well as to how much progress co-operative societies or cottage industries have made in India. It also shows the necessity of giving necessary encouragement to them. Failing that aid, it is just possible that they may not maintain even their present position. A visit to that place will make it clear that they are in no way inferior to similar industries of other countries. Should we make the necessary progress in this behalf and pay more attention to this side than to the capitalists, our country may make rapid strides towards all-round progress. It is regretted, however, that not enough attention is being given to this matter.

Now just take the case of people living in the countryside. You have reduced the price of post-card to two pice. But even in that, you have not evolved any uniform scheme. You want to confine this two-pice price to local purposes only. In this connection, I will like to refer to the percentage of literacy in our villages. Most of the people there are illiterate and ignorant. It is out of question for them to write a post-card. Only the rich ones who have to write as many as 200 or 400 letters, stand to benefit by this concession. Whether the concession is given directly or indirectly, it is ultimately those people alone to whom it does any real good. You are benefiting these rich people in various ways. I maintain that instead of flattering such people like that, you had better pay more attention to the poor. Had you meant really some relief or concessions for the poor, you should have adopted a uniform basis which could benefit all alike. You have, however, imposed a condition namely to keep the price two pice for local postage and three in all other cases. Only the businessmen stand to gain thereby.

Further I may submit that the concession to match cottage industry may be of some satisfaction. But, on the other hand, you will realize that there is an appreciable production of tobacco in this country and lacs of people earn their living by working in tobacco industry. Despite that you have given no particular protection to that industry. The concession conceded to match-factories is not likely to benefit all states as such factories do not exist in each one of them. They exist in two or four of the states only. Only a few people, therefore, stand to benefit from this concession which fact is, nevertheless of some satisfaction Tobacco-

where it is used in so many ways. People use it one way or the other in factories, on the other hand exist in all parts of the country and every-beetle-leaf, cigarettes, Biri or snuff. A little bit of attention in this respect would have resulted in some real benefit to our masses.

Moreover Chhota Nagpur is rich in mineral resources. Despite that the area has received little attention. Had a little care been shown towards the utilization of these resources, the country would have taken one more step towards progress. As much attention as was necessary has not, however, been given to this.

Along with this I should like to submit that, conscious as we are of the low percentage of literacy in this country, we should have taken some steps in this direction. This is an opportune moment to propagate Hindi everywhere. Special steps, therefore, should have been taken in the matter. In the absence of such arrangements, reduction in the price of post-card will prove inconsequential. It is so because people cannot be expected to write letters when they are illiterate and do not know how to write. My submission, therefore, is that more attention be paid in future to those living in the countryside. I had to submit this much only.

लाला अचिन्त राम : मैं बड़े गौर से फ़ाईनेंस मिनिस्टर साहब (Minister of Finance) की स्पीच (Speech) रिहैबिलिटेशन मिनिस्टर साहब (Minister of Rehabilitation) की स्पीच को सुनता रहा हूँ और बजट और फ़ाईनेंस बिल (Finance Bill) को भी ध्यान से पढ़ता रहा हूँ। मैंने गौर से देखा कि आया गवर्नमेंट (Government) ने जो वायदे रिफ्यूजियों (Refugees) के साथ किये हैं कम्पेनसेशन (Compensation) देने के वायदे किये हैं, इन वायदों को पूरा करने के लिए उन की स्पीच के अन्दर या रिहैबिलिटेशन मिनिस्टर साहब की स्पीच के अन्दर या बजट के अन्दर या फ़ाईनेंस बिल के अन्दर कोई इस तरह का रास्ता दिखलाया गया है कि वह वायदे पूरे हों। मैं यह नहीं कह सकता कि मैं बजट का माहिर हूँ। अगर मिनिस्टर साहब के दिमाग के अन्दर इस किस्म का कोई रास्ता है कि जिससे यह काम पूरा हो, यह वायदे पूरे हों, तो मैं यह बात नहीं कह सकता हूँ। मगर जहाँ तक मैं देखता हूँ कि जो वायदे हमारे गोपालस्वामी आयोग साहब ने और हमारे प्राइम मिनिस्टर (Prime Minister) साहब ने किये थे कि रिफ्यूजियों को बसाने और उन को कम्पेनसेशन देने की जिम्मेदारी गवर्नमेंट आफ इंडिया (Government of India) पर है, वह मुझे कहीं पर भी नज़र नहीं आ रहा है। इन रिफ्यूजियों को किसी किस्म के बॉण्ड (Bonds) देने की भी कोई योजना नहीं नज़र आती है। जब मैंने फ़ाईनेंस मिनिस्टर साहब की स्पीच पढ़ी तो मुझे ऐसा मालूम हुआ कि उन्होंने इस किस्म का ग्राउण्ड (Ground) तैयार किया है कि टैक्सों को कुछ कम किया जाय। जब सरदार हृकम सिंह जी ने इस हाउस (House) के अन्दर रिफ्यूजियों की मदद करने और उन को बसाने के लिए एक प्रस्ताव रखा था तो उस समय कहा गया था कि इस तरह का टैक्स लगाना ज़रूरी नहीं है क्योंकि जो बजट का रुपया लोगों का आता

[लाला अचिन्त राम]

है उस से रुपया ले लिया जायेगा । मगर मैंने बजट में इस तरह की कोई भी बात नहीं देखी । जब बजट पेश हुआ तो मालूम हुआ कि जहां पिछले साल ४० करोड़ रुपया शरणार्थियों को बसाने के लिए रखा गया था वहां अब इस साल उस को २० करोड़ कर दिया है । फाइनेन्स मिनिस्टर साहब ने फरमाया कि ५ करोड़ और मिल जायेगा । बड़ी अच्छी बात है । लेकिन उन की स्पीच के अन्दर मुझे खतरा मालूम हुआ क्योंकि वहां पर बजट में टैक्स बढ़ाने के बजाय उस को कुछ कम कर दिया है । मैं आखिर तक यह उम्मीद लगाये हुए था कि शरणार्थियों के लिए बजट में रकम को बढ़ा दिया जायेगा मगर जब अन्त में भी सिवाय २० और २५ करोड़ रुपये से ज्यादा नहीं बढ़ाया गया तो मुझे बहुत निराशा हुई । इस तरह से गवर्नमेंट अपनी जिम्मेदारी को किस तरह से पूरा कर सकेगी । जो शरणार्थियों की २० और ४० अरब की रकम वहां पर रह गई है उस को हमारी सरकार किस तरह से पूरा करेगी । किस तरह से उन को वह कम्पैनसेशन देगी । गवर्नमेंट को इसके लिए कोई न कोई इन्तजाम करना लाजमी है जिस से कि इन शरणार्थियों के आंसू तो पौछे जायें । अगर आप उन को रुपये में १६ आना भर नहीं दे सकते हैं तो कम से कम आठ आना, छैं आना, चार आना, दो आना, एक आना और या दो पैसे भर उन को देने का प्रबन्ध करें जिस से कि उन का काम चल सके । लेकिन मैं देखता हूं कि बजट के अन्दर और फाइनेन्स बिल के अन्दर इस तरह की कोई भी चीज नहीं रखी गई है ।

कुछ अर्सा हुआ कि शरणार्थियों के दिलों में एक तरह की आशा आ गई थी कि उन को सरकार की ओर से कुछ न कुछ कम्पैनसेशन दिया जायेगा । जब हाल ही में गवर्नमेंट ने एक आर्डिनेन्स नं० ५ बनाया था उस समय फरवरी का सेशन (February Session) होने वाला था फिर भी आर्डिनेन्स बनाया और लोगों के दिलों में बड़ी आशा बंधी कि इस समय हमारी सरकार की बड़ी इच्छा है कि लोगों के क्लेमस (claims) का जल्दी बैरीफिकेशन (verification) हो । मगर फाइनेन्स मिनिस्टर साहब की स्पीच के अन्दर इस तरह का कोई जिक्र नहीं था । मालूम पड़ता है कि गवर्नमेंट ने इस बैरीफिकेशन के मैग्नीट्यूड (magnitude) को महसूस नहीं किया । अगर इस को महसूस किया होता तो उन्होंने अपनी स्पीच के अन्दर इस चीज का जिक्र कर दिया होता । अगर गवर्नमेंट का यह ख्याल है कि बैरीफिकेशन कर के उनको कुछ न कुछ कम्पैनसेशन दिया जाय तो गवर्नमेंट इस काम में कामयाबी हासिल नहीं कर सकती है । क्योंकि बैरीफिकेशन

का काम एक ऐसा काम है जिस के लिए बहुत मेहनत की ज़रूरत होती है और उस के लिए एक बहुत बड़ी मशीनरी की ज़रूरत होती है। यदि हम बैरीफिकेशन का काम छः महीनें या साल में समाप्त नहीं करते तो हम बैरीफिकेशन के औबजैक्ट (object) को ही फोरफ़ीट (forfeit) करते हैं। पहिले ही ठाई साल गुज़र चुके हैं। यदि साढ़े तीन साल गुज़र गये तो मक़सद हासिल न होगा। रिहैबिलिटेशन फ़ाईनेन्स ऐडमिनिस्ट्रेशन (Rehabilitation Finance administration) के चीफ़ एडमिनिस्ट्रेटर (Chief Administrator) की रिपोर्ट पढ़ने से मालूम होता है कि लोन्स (loans) के लिए जो एप्लीकेशन (applications) मांगी गई थीं उन्होंने लिखा है कि ९ महीने हो गये हैं वह एप्लीकेशन लेना बन्द कर दिया गया क्योंकि अब इतना पैसा नहीं कि और ज्यादा एप्लीकेशन ली जायें। यहां पर हमारे रिहैबिलिटेशन मिनिस्टर साहिब कहते हैं कि उस में हमारे हाउस के मंम्बर हैं और काम सब अच्छी तरह से चल रहा है। मगर हमारी पार्लियामेंट (Parliament) के सदस्य ज्ञानी गुरमुख सिंह जो उस कमेटी के मंम्बर हैं वह कहते हैं कि उन के पास मकान ही नहीं हैं। अच्छी तरह से इन सब चीज़ों को गौर से देखा जाय तो काम अच्छी तरह से नहीं हो रहा है। मकान तक उन के पास नहीं हैं और न हासिल करने की कोशिश ही की जाती है। बजट के अन्दर और फाइनेन्स बिल के अन्दर इस तरह के मकान बनाने का कोई भी प्रोविज़न (Provision) नहीं रखा गया है। इस वास्ते इन सब बातों को यदि देखा जाय तो बड़ी दिकक़त फ़ाईनेन्स की ही है। मैं ज्यादा इस बारे में नहीं कहना चाहता हूँ। अगर मुझे इसका तसल्ली बख़्शा जवाब मिल जाये तो मुझे बहुत ही खुशी होगी। मगर मैं देखता हूँ कि वेस्ट पाकिस्तान (West Pakistan) से यहां पर ६० लाख आदमी आए हुए हैं और ४ लाख शरणार्थी हमारे ईस्ट बंगाल (East Bengal) से आ गये हैं। हम लोग किस तरह से इन लोगों को बसा सकेंगे, इस बजट में तो किसी तरह का प्रोविज़न यहां पर नहीं दिया गया है। हमारे गोपालस्वामी आयंगर साहिब ने और हमारे प्राइम मिनिस्टर साहब ने जो वायदे दिये हैं अगर उन को ईफ़ा कर दिया जायें तो मुझे बहुत खुशी होगी।

(English translation of the above speech)

Lala Achint Ram (Punjab): I have been hearing the speeches of the hon. Minister of Finance and the hon. Minister of Rehabilitation with rapt attention and have also studied the Budget and the Finance Bill very carefully. I very minutely went over the same in order to ascertain if the hon. Ministers of Finance and Rehabilitation in their speeches or in the Budget proposals, or in the Finance Bill, have suggested ways and

[Lala Achint Ram]

means so that the promises, that the Government have made to the refugees about giving them compensation, could be fulfilled. I do not say that I am a budget expert. I do not know if the hon. Minister has thought out some such scheme whereby this task could be accomplished and these promises fulfilled. But as far as I could see I did not find any indication of the fulfilment of the promises that our Prime Minister and Shri Gopalswami Ayyangar had given, that the responsibility of rehabilitating the refugees and giving them compensation rested with the Government of India. I do not find therein any scheme of giving these refugees some sort of bonds even. When I read the speech of the hon. Minister of Finance, it appeared to me that therein he has prepared a ground for reducing the burden of taxation. When Sardar Hukam Singh had moved a resolution about rehabilitating and giving help to the refugees, at that time it was alleged that it was not at all necessary to impose such a tax. This was alleged on the plea that money for this thing would be found from the budget proposal made for this work. But I did not find any such thing in the budget. When the budget was presented, I came to know that while last year the amount set apart for the rehabilitation of the refugees was 40 crores, this year the sum was reduced to 20 crores. The hon. Minister of Finance gave out that an additional five crores would also be made available for this purpose. This is quite good. But in his speech I noted a sense of danger because in the budget instead of the taxes being raised they have somewhat been reduced. Till the very end I had been hoping that some more money would be made available in the budget for the refugees, but when ultimately the sum set apart for this purpose did not exceed 20-25 crores of rupees then I was very much disappointed. In this way how the Government would be able to discharge its responsibilities? How the Government would be able to give compensation of the property worth 20-40 hundred millions of rupees left there? How the Government would be able to pay this compensation? It is essential for the Government to find out such ways and means to settle this so that the refugees may get some sort of relief at least. If the Government cannot pay full compensation there should at least make suitable arrangement to pay them eight annas or four annas or two annas or one anna or even two pice for every rupee, so that they may be able to make both ends meet. But I see that neither in the budget nor in the Finance Bill any such thing has been provided.

For some time the refugees had been entertaining the hope that they would be given some compensation by the Government. Quite recently the Government had issued the Ordinance No. V. Though the February Session was about to be convened yet the Ordinance was issued and the people began to entertain high hopes that the Government was very keen to make at a very early date verification of the claims submitted by them. But there was no mention of any such thing in the speech of the hon. Minister of Finance. It appears that the Government have not realized the magnitude of this verification business. Had the hon. Minister realized the magnitude then he would have surely made a reference of this thing in his speech. If it is the intention of the Government to give some compensation after making a verification then the Government cannot be successful in this matter. Because the task of verification is such which requires a lot of labour and for its successful completion a very cumbersome machinery is required. If we do not complete this work of verification within a period of six months then we forfeit the very object of doing this verification. Two and a half years have already elapsed, and if three and a half years are whiled away then our purpose would not be served.

On going through the Report of the Chief Administrator of the Rehabilitation Finance Administration it appears that applications for loans were invited. In the report it is mentioned that since nine months entertaining of fresh applications has been stopped because the money at disposal does not permit any more applications. But here the hon. Minister of Rehabilitation says that hon. Members of this House are on the said Committee and the work is going on smoothly. But Giani Gurmukh Singh an hon. Member of this House is a member of the said Committee. He says that the Committee has no houses at its disposal. If these circumstances be carefully taken into consideration then it would be found that the work is not being conducted smoothly. The Committee has no houses at its disposal and no efforts even are being made to secure them. No provision of constructing such houses has been provided either in the budget or in the Finance Bill. So if that things were to be carefully considered over then it would be seen that there is a great difficulty of finances. I do not wish to submit anything more on this point. I would be completely satisfied if I were to get a satisfactory answer to that. But I see that some 60 lacs of displaced people have migrated to this country from West Pakistan and four lakh of refugees have come from East Bengal. How would we be able to rehabilitate them? No such provision has been made here in this budget. If the promises given by our hon. Prime Minister and hon. Shri Gopalaswami Ayyangar are fulfilled then this would give me entire satisfaction.

Maulvi Wajed Ali (Assam): Sir, I would rather prefer to speak to-morrow. My throat is rather bad.

Mr. Speaker: To-morrow? But then he will not get a chance, there will be no speeches to-morrow, on the consideration motion.

Maulvi Wajed Ali: All right, Sir. I have now read the report of the Select Committee on the Finance Bill and the amendments that have been made. Of course, as regards the rates of postcards and envelops, the Select Committee have promised that these will be extended to the local deliveries within the District, and there are certain other amendments also for which I must congratulate them.

Generally speaking, however, the criticism which I made on the General Budget the other day, still holds good. I say this, because as regards income-tax the criticism that has been levelled by my hon. friends who have just spoken, that it has gone to relieve the rich persons, and not the poor, still holds good. This relief to the extent of Rs. 15 crores which has been given in the Finance Bill and its proposals, will not only reduce our surplus, but will also hit the Provinces to the extent of Rs. 7½ crores to which sum, they would have been entitled. had this amount been in the Central coffers. The Deshmukh Award which has distributed the income-tax pool, has very much hit at least two provinces, my State of Assam and also the State of Orissa. Now we have been given only 3 per cent. of the total divisible pool, whereas the grants to the other richer provinces have been increased. But these two States, which are the poorest, their percentage has been increased only by 1, which I say, is a very great injustice done to them. So far as Assam is concerned. I may add that, at least three-fourths of the tea gardens have their head offices in Calcutta and London and so their income-taxes are assessed and paid in these places. Actually and equitably this should have gone to Assam's share. As I have already mentioned, we are not getting anything as share of the Excise duty on tea which, according to the figures

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

given by my hon. friend Dr. Matthai, the other day, for the first six months of the present year, was about Rs. 5 crores. As far as kerosene

[Maulvi Wajed Ali]

and petroleum are concerned, which come almost entirely from Assam, and which bring a receipt of Rs. 1½ crores to the Centre, Assam is not getting anything therefrom.

Sir, provision has been made in the Constitution, through Article 275 (1) which lays down that those states which are in need of aids shall be provided with adequate funds. Now I find a provision of only Rs. 30 lakhs which the Otto Niemeyer Award also gave as a Subvention, has been allotted to Assam under Article 275(1). After this period of 13 years from 1937, this sum appears to be quite inadequate. So far as income-tax is concerned, this 3 per cent. is not much and by these reductions of the super-tax and other taxes as proposed in the Finance Bill, Assam will also lose another 22 lakhs, which in the normal course, she would have got as her share. So I appeal to the hon. the Finance Minister, and to this House, to consider these. As you have seen in the papers, the Assam Budget as presented in the Legislature, is a deficit one to the extent of 87 lakhs of rupees, and certain new taxation measures have been made which will bring about 44 lakhs, and still there will be a deficit of 43 lakhs; and I appeal to the Centre, to come to the help of this poor province of mine, and help her with liberal grants.

I have only to mention about postcards and envelopes. Now the extension of the benefit of local delivery to the whole district, will not materially benefit the poor as their relations etc., mostly are not in the same district and if they are not at some distance, generally the village folks do not send letters. It is only where there are inter-district, or inter-provincial relations, they, the poor people, write letters. So my submission is that at least with a view to prove our genuineness to help the poor, along with our desire to help the richer classes, and the raising of the income-tax level to the extent of Rs. 3,600/-, which is also a concession to the middle-classes, will not be appreciated by the poorer classes who do not pay these taxes unless we give them some relief by way of reduction of at least postal rates.

With these few observations, I welcome and support the other proposals of the Finance Bill.

Shri A. P. Jain: The other day during the course of the first reading when the hon. the Finance Minister wound up the debate on the Finance Bill, he ended by having a sort of jibe at certain Members of this House who did not agree with him that the concessions which he has extended to the richer classes will evoke a response from the money market in the sense of greater investment. Sir, like the Finance Minister I do not claim to be what Bagehot calls 'an uncommon man of common opinion' but certainly I am a common man of common opinion and I dare say that when common affairs are concerned, a common man of common opinion is not an inferior to an uncommon man of common opinion.

A review of what has happened in the money market since this Budget was presented will bear out that there are lesser hopes of the Finance Minister getting a response from the money market. For some time, Sir, as you remarked this morning, there had been a hope in the money and financial circles that some relief and perhaps a considerable relief will be given to the industrialist and richer classes. When the Budget was presented, that hope came out to be true and the share market shot up but during the 25 days that have elapsed, we have seen that the Tatas Deferred shares have sagged by 200 points. They are a good indication of the money market. That is how the money market has responded to the generous offer of the Finance Minister.

Then there is another thing. Most of the investment during the past has come from what may be called the middle-classes in towns. The big industrialist has acted more or less like a Manager but during the last 3 or 4 years the manner in which he has managed our industry has completely forfeited the confidence of middle-classes which were mostly the investing public. Look at the value of any shares which have been floated during the last 4 or 5 years. Shares of a face value of Rs. 10/- and fully subscribed are to-day offered for 4 or 5 rupees or say Rs. 6 if they happen to be of a good concern. There are yet other concerns whose share of Rs. 10 are being sold at Rs. 1-12 and Rs. 1-13-0. That is not the way to inspire confidence for investment. In fact our capitalist has behaved like a speculator. He has misappropriated the money of the ordinary investor who does not know the jugglery or intricacies of the money market but is generally guided by the sentiments of the money market—boom and set back. Moreover, the middle-classes, particularly those living in towns to-day have no surplus to invest and in the Budget I do not find anything which could draw capital from the well-off classes in the rural areas who are the only people with some spare money. I wish the hon. the Finance Minister had some scheme to attract money from the higher strata of the rural society which on account of the higher selling price of the agricultural products have a little spare money. I am afraid that there is nothing in the Budget which can raise our hope that the money market will respond in the matter of investment. That is one thing, but this afternoon my main object is to say something about clause 4 of the Bill that deals with motor-parts and components. The present position is that motor-parts and components which are used in the motor-cars as also for other motor vehicles *viz.*, motor trucks and buses are liable to an import duty of 60 per cent.

The rest of the motor parts and components which are not used for motor cars are liable to an import duty of 30 per cent. and 21 per cent. preferential in the case of the U.K. The change which it is proposed to make is this: that the differentiation between parts and components which are used for motor cars and those which are used for other vehicles only has been done away with and all parts and components used for motor cars and other motor vehicles have been divided into three parts. Some of those parts which are at present being manufactured in India are being subjected to a duty of 60 per cent., and those parts which are not manufactured in India but which are expected to be manufactured in India during the next year or within the next two years are subjected to an import duty of 90 per cent., and the rest of the parts whose number, according to the categories laid down, is comparatively small, will be subjected to an import duty of 30 per cent. and 24 per cent. preferential in the case of the U.K. The net result of these changes is that on some parts there has been an increase of 60 per cent. in import duty and on other parts there has been an increase of 30 per cent. At present cars in a finished condition, that is complete cars, are, under the order of Government, prohibited from being imported. Therefore cars are being imported in a semi-knock-down condition or in a completely knock-down condition, and the result of this increase in import duty is two-fold. Firstly, repairs and replacements will become most costly not only in the case of comparatively new cars but even of old rickety cars which have been in use for a number of years, as my friend, Mr. T. T. Krishnama-chari, pointed out the other day. And Sir, the price of the cars assembled in India will also rise. We have an estimate of it from the Communications Ministry. The price of a car will rise by about Rs. 700 and the price of a truck from the U.S.A.

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Khurshed Lal): The Communications Ministry has not given any estimate.

Shri A. P. Jain: I am sorry. It is the Transport Ministry. I was not aware that our watchdog was here. Anyhow, I am glad that he has corrected me. The price of the trucks imported from the U.S.A. will rise by about Rs. 2,500 and of those imported from the U.K. by about Rs. 3,200. We have been told by the Delhi Transport Authority that a bus which runs about 30,000 miles in a year needs about Rs. 2,000 for replacement of parts and components. The additional duty of this Rs. 2,000 would be about Rs. 600, which means that the additional running cost of a motor bus will on this account, work out to four pies per bus mile. Added to this, the depreciation due to the increased cost of motor bus, and there would be an addition of about ten pies or eleven pies or about one anna per bus mile. Where is this one anna to come from? It can come only from the poor man who travels in the bus and which is the only means of transport in most places, except bullock cart.

Prof. Ranga: A rebate can be given on that.

Shri A. P. Jain: A rebate can be given. We will come to that. Here certain fundamental questions arise. By raising this duty, you are taxing the poor man. The question is, is this duty justified? We are told that there are 15 factories in India which are assembling motor cars or motor vehicles. Out of these 15 factories, there are only two factories which are at present manufacturing motor parts and components. They are the Hindustan Motors and the Premier Motors. I can well understand giving protection to an industry even in advance, provided there is a case for it. I can understand protection if an industry can meet the major portion of the needs of the country. We have to compare the sacrifices which we are asking people to make with the advantage which the nation will derive. I favour protection for motor industry. The motor industry is one of the essential industries, and the sooner we build it up, the better it is for the country. We are now wasting a lot of foreign exchange on the import of motor cars and vehicles, and in this present age we cannot do away with the motor cars, but the whole question is whether the sacrifice which the nation is being asked to make is proportionate to the gain which the nation will derive from the development of the motor industry. Now, the rise in import duty will give protection only to two companies which are manufacturing motor car parts in India, viz. the Hindustan Motors and the Premier Motors, and not to any third company. But the increase in the price of the motor cars will be a very substantial amount, very nearly 20 to 25 per cent. of the present prices. My point is that unless the motor industry is in a position to fulfil almost the entire needs or at least a major portion of the needs of the nation, there is no case for affording it protection. In some cases, the rise in the duty is 30 per cent. and in some cases it is 60 per cent. We are prepared to give even 500 per cent. protection provided we are satisfied that it is necessary. This House feels reluctant to agree to any rise in the import duty unless it is satisfied that every pie of the burden which is being placed upon the consumer is necessary in the interests of the motor industry.

Again, Sir, there is another question. We are told that those motor parts which are proposed to be protected by a 90 per cent. duty will be manufactured during the course of the next one year or two years. This Finance Bill is being passed for one year. May I suggest the dividing of these parts into those parts which they are going to manufacture during the first year and those during the course of the second year. The advantages of this division will be two-fold. Firstly, we will be able to keep a check and see whether the motor industry has lived up to its promises, whether it has actually manufactured the scheduled parts in the first year in order to deserve further protection in the second. Secondly, Sir, the motor industry will also have an incentive. It will know that, if it fails

to fulfil its promises, it will not get any protection in the second year. It is not difficult to divide these parts into two categories, and I do not see any reason why we should give protection today to those parts which are not going to be manufactured during the first year but will be manufactured only during the second year.

There is another point. I was told—I am no expert—that some forty or even more kinds of motor cars are being used in this country and about twenty or more kinds of trucks are also being used in this country. Every motor car has specialised parts. I know that. I have a Plymouth and when I wanted certain parts which I could not get in India, I sent for those parts from the U.S.A. They wanted me to specify the year of make and the number of the car which I happened to possess. Most of these parts are specialised parts and cannot be used on all cars. I see no reason why any kind of protection should be given in respect of brands which are not going to be manufactured immediately. The Hindustan Motors are dealing in Morris and Studebaker and the Premier's in Dodge group, but none of them are manufacturing Ford or Buick parts. Why should any protection be given in respect of parts which are special to Ford or Buick. There are other different kinds of vehicles. These are some of the questions which have to be answered by the Finance Minister before he can claim any increase in the import duty.

My hon. friend Prof. Ranga asked me a question. He said that the Motor companies could be given a subsidy.

Prof. Ranga: Rebate.

Shri A. P. Jain: We do not know how much money the Finance Minister is going to get by way of duty. There is difference over that. The Finance Minister has not told us how much money he is going to get from the increased duty. We have to find out what the amount will be. After all, it will be a speculative amount and we have to calculate how much could be given by way of subsidy. It will, again, be a very difficult task. There are some transport operators who have got one, two or three motors. How are you going to distribute the extra money which you get, by way of subsidy?

Prof. Ranga: Not subsidy; but rebate from the collected duty.

Shri A. P. Jain: In what form? That, we have not been told.

Shri Tyagi: Rebate in cash.

Shri A. P. Jain: Where is the money that we are going to give? Where is the provision for rebate in this Bill, I ask. Therefore, the increased duty will go to a few companies. It does not give us any guarantee that the motor industry is going to develop in this country. On the other hand, it will place on the poor travelling public an inordinate burden which is not at all justified.....

Shri Sidhva: And also increase the freight from a commercial point of view.

Shri A. P. Jain:which is not at all justified by the advantage that we are going to derive from it. I appeal to the hon. Finance Minister for whom I have very high regard, to look into the matter. All along I have been sitting with him in the Select Committee and although he was supporting the Bill, he was supporting it only by his silence. He did nothing positive in support of it. I was feeling all along that there was a conflict in his mind: he was supporting a thing which he ought not to have supported. I say he should pick up a little more courage and say that this is wrong. I hope he will do it.

The Minister of Works, Mines and Power: (Shri Gadgil): I am almost moved by the speech of my hon. friend Mr. A. P. Jain and I propose to come to the relief of that section of the community for the grievances of which he has shown considerable sympathy today.

I agree that fuel and transport are two important elements in the life of the community. The House is aware that after the de-valuation in the month of September 1949, prices of petroleum products have increased. The Government of India took up this question with the Oil companies concerned and I am now in a position to state the result of these negotiations. Most of the hon. Members of this House are probably aware that up till now what was known as the Gulf Formula, was in existence and in accordance with that the prices of all petroleum products were determined. In other words, it meant this. Irrespective of the actual lead from the place from which the products were imported into the Indian ports, they were charging freight from the Mexican Gulf to the Indian ports. This matter was taken up, as I stated, with the Oil companies with the result that they have agreed now to decrease this amount known as the original differential and have agreed to a new price formula. With this formula, the net result is that we are able to save Rs. 5,40,00,000 by way of foreign exchange. Out of that, nearly four crores of rupees will go towards the reduction of the prices of petroleum products.

Dr. Deshmukh: How much per gallon?

Shri Gadgil: To work it out, it comes to this. The price of petrol per gallon will be one anna less from the 1st of April.

As regards kerosene oil, in which I think every member of this House takes great interest, because it is a commodity which is so very essential both to the poorer sections and the rural sections of the country, the net result will be that there will be a reduction of half-an-anna per bottle. As a matter of fact, Government of India has been negotiating for additional supply and for the year 1950, 883,409 tons of kerosene will be imported.

Shri Sidhva: Against last years?

Shri Gadgil: This is more than 15 per cent. above the supply that was made available in the year 1939. As regards the supply of petrol, in the year 1939, for undivided India, it was 341, 780 tons. Today, we have fixed the quota for the year 1950 as 628,000 tons. That will show.....

Shri Sidhva: What was it last year?

Shri Gadgil: Considerably less than this. This will clearly show that as a result of additional supplies and as a result of the negotiations with various Provincial Governments through which distribution is made to the retail purchaser, we have been able already to reduce the price by one quarter of an anna, the present decrease will add another quarter of an anna and on the whole, there will be a reduction of half an anna per bottle. In relation to the import duty on kerosene, it comes to 50 per cent. This will show with what anxiety Government of India has been doing something for the poorer sections of the community. It will undoubtedly mean some light in places where there was none, continuous where there was occasional, and on the whole it is, I should say, an opportunity for fair and friendly critics to congratulate.

Shri A. P. Jain: You have given us one cake and like Oliver Twist we ask for another.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Shri Gokulbhai Bhatt.

Shri Sidhva: We are anxious to hear the Transport Minister.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I have already called Mr. Bhatt.

श्री भट्ट : मैं बजट के भाषण पर और बजट की एक आम बहस पर नहीं कि बोल रहा हूँ, अगर्च कई मित्रों ने इस बजट को टैक्सट बुक बजट कहा है, एकाउंटेंट्स (accountant's) बजट कन्सर्वेटिव (conservative) बजट कहा है और आगे चलकर कैपिटलिस्ट (capitalist) बजट भी कह दिया है, लेकिन मेरा ख्याल है कि यह एक व्यवहारिक आदमी का बजट है, प्रैक्टिकल मैनस् (practical man's budget) बजट है, यह एक ऐसा बजट है जो कि घर की स्त्री का होता है, जो एक बनिये की तरह घर में बैठती है और घर का सब काम चलाती है, हमें यह देखना है कि हम मजदूरों के लिये, किसानों के लिये, उद्योग वालों के लिये क्या करते हैं। जो कुछ भी करना है वह करते ही रहें। अपनी पालिसी को तय करना होगा। अगर हम चाहते हैं कि देश के सारे उद्योग धंधे हमारे हाथ में ले लिये जायं, और हम उनको नेशनलाइज (nationalize) कर दें, तो हमें इस तरीके से अपने काम को चलाना होगा। आगे चल कर हम क्या करेंगे और मजदूरों के लिये क्या गुंजायश होगी मिनिमम बेसिस, फ़ेअर बेसिस, क्या प्राफ़िट शेयरिंग वगैरह सबाल हमारे सामने आयेंगे। हमें इस वक्त अपनी पालिसी को तय करना है कि हम देश के सारे उद्योग धंधे अपने हाथ में ले लेना चाहते हैं? हमने हमारी उद्योग नीति (Industrial Policy) बनाई है। उस में क्या फिर से परिवर्तन करना है? अगर उस नीति को बदलनी ही तो बदलिये। नहीं तो जो लोग उद्योग धंधे चलाते हैं उन को भी हमें आगे तरक्की देनी है जिससे कि वह अच्छी तरह से काम कर सकें। हम यह जरूर चाहते हैं कि मजदूरों का जीवन अच्छा हो, काश्तकारों का जीवन अच्छा हो, लेकिन उसके साथ-साथ जो तीसरी श्रेणी है, जो इंडस्ट्रियलिस्ट्स, जिनको आप कैपिटलिस्ट्स कहते हैं, उन लोगों की भी एक श्रेणी है, जिसकी तरफ सरकार की निगाह होनी चाहिये। राज्य को तो सब की तरफ ध्यान देना है और सब की तरफ ध्यान देते हुए अर्थ-मंत्री ने अपनी पालिसी के मुताबिक बजट बनाया है। वह चाहे कुछ लोगों को अच्छा लगे या चाहे कुछ लोगों को बुरा। लेकिन जब आज हमारे माननीय पंडित जी, कांग्रेस कमेटी और सब लोग यह कह रहे हैं कि किसी भी हालत में, इन एनी कंडीशन (in any condition), हमें तो उपज बढ़ाना है, चाहे वह अनाज की उपज हो, चाहे वह रूई की उपज हो, चाहे वह जूट की उपज हो और चाहे उद्योगों की उपज हो, आज हिन्दुस्तान की जो हालत है उसमें हमें उत्पन्न प्रोडक्शन (production) को बढ़ाना है जिससे कि सुखसंपत्, प्रोस्पेरिटी (prosperity) मुल्क में हो। तो मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि हमें हमारी नज़रों के सामने यह चीज़ रखनी चाहिये

[श्री भट्ट]

वरना हमें एकदम अपनी पालिसी बदल देनी चाहिये। बार-बार हम अपनी सरकार से यह कहते रहते हैं कि आप ने यह नहीं किया, वह नहीं किया। लेकिन उनके सामने उन्हें हमेशा इस चीज को रखनी चाहिये, यही मेरी आज्ञा है।

आज हम सब तरफ से घिर गये हैं। सब को रियायत चाहिये। इस कोने में बैठा हुआ आदमी भी रियायत मांग रहा है कि मेरे तंग (बन्धन) को थोड़ा शिथिल कर दीजिये, ढीला कर दीजिये। इसी तरह उधर उस कोने में बैठा हुआ आदमी भी कहता है कि उसके साथ कुछ रियायत कर दी जाय। इस तरह चारों तरफ से आदमी कह रहे, चारों तरफ से आदमी चिल्ला रहे हैं कि उनके दुःख कम होने चाहियें। तो किसका दुःख कम किया जाय वह तो सरकार को देखना है। मैं भी वर्क्स माइन्स पावर कमेटी (Works, Mines and Power Committee) में बैठा हुआ कहता था और चिल्लाता था कि यह जो भाखरा डैम, दामोदर बैली प्रौद्योगिकी हौराकुड हैं उनके लिये तो रुपया कम नहीं करना चाहिये। लेकिन वह कहते हैं कि करें क्या। आज जो चीज चल रही है उसको आगे बढ़ावें या जो अभी जन्म भी नहीं पाई है उसे आगे बढ़ावें। तो हमें तसल्ली करनी पड़ती है कि जो चीज चल रही है उसको ही आगे बढ़ाया जाय, उसको ही जिन्दा रहने दिया जाय और उससे ही हमारे मुल्क की दौलत को बढ़ाया जाय।

श्रीधरी रणवीर सिंह : इसमें तो ब्रेक (brake) लग रहा है।

मि० डिप्टी स्पीकर : आगे बढ़िये।

श्री भट्ट : आपके विराजमान होते हुए भी और कई अध्यक्ष होते हुए दिखाई देते हैं। तो हमने कभी यह कहा है कि डिफेन्स का खर्च कम कर दीजिये, आप पैसा देकर काम नहीं कराइये। लेकिन यह कहने के लिये कोई तैयार नहीं कि हम बिना पैसे से काम करने को तैयार हैं।

श्री कामत : आप कहिये।

श्री भट्ट : मेरा मौका आवेगा तो मैं कहूंगा। अब इसी तरह हम हेल्थ (health) और ऐजुकेशन (education) के बारे में कुछ नहीं कर सकते हैं। हम यह कहते हैं कि कर टैक्सेशन (Taxation) कम कीजिये। मिडिल क्लास का सवाल होता है तो गरीबों का सवाल आता है और जब गरीबों का सवाल होता है तो उससे ज्यादा गरीबों का सवाल आता है। यह सब सवाल हमारे

सामने आते हैं तो मैं यही कहना चाहता हूँ कि इन सब बातों के होते हुए सरकार की तरफ से हमारे फ़ाइनेन्स मिनिस्टर साहब ने जो बजट पेश किया है वह एक व्यवहारिक प्रैक्टिकल (practical) बजट है।

एक भाई ने, सुब्रमण्यम साहब ने कहा कि फाइनेन्स बिल पर सिलेक्ट कमेटी की क्या ज़रूरत रहती है। सिलेक्ट कमेटी की इसलिए ज़रूरत रहती है कि सिलेक्ट कमेटी इस बात को देखे कि जो प्रस्ताव हो रहा है उसमें कमी करने की कोशिश करे और आयन्दा के लिये फ़ाइनेन्स मिनिस्टर को वा फाइनेन्स डिपार्टमेंट को आगाह करे कि फ़लां फ़लां चीज़ इसमें आयन्दा होनी चाहिये। आयन्दा साल के लिये जो सुझाव होते हैं वह फाइनेन्स बिल पर की वर्तमान सिलेक्ट कमेटी जो होती है वही दे सकती है और यह ठीक बात भी है। इसे ग़ौर वाजबी बात नहीं माना जा सकता जैसे कि मैं एक मिसाल देना चाहता हूँ। (Interruption)

मैं अभी सब प्रश्नों उपप्रश्नों का उत्तर नहीं दे सकूंगा। इसलिये महरबानी करके बीच में न बोलिये। मैं एक मिसाल देना चाहता हूँ कि गत साल फाइनेन्स बिल की सिलेक्ट कमेटी ने यह सुझावा था कि तीन हजार रुपये की जो एग्जम्पशन लिमिट (Exemption limit) थी उसके अनुसार अनडिवाइडेड हिन्दू फ़ैमिली (undivided Hindu family) की लिमिट ६ हजार होनी चाहिये। लेकिन उस समय फ़ाइनेन्स मिनिस्टर वह चीज़ कबूल नहीं कर सके। यह चूँकि एक कारोलरी (Corollary) थी लेकिन उनके गले बात नहीं उतरी। अब उन्होंने वह चीज़ महसूस की और उन्होंने इस साल पहले से ही छः हजार तक की लिमिट रख दी थी। तो गवर्नमेंट इसके बारे में नहीं सोच रही है यह कोई कहे तो मेरी समझ में नहीं आता उनकी अक्ल के लिये मैं क्या कहूँ ?

इस समय हमें यह देखना चाहिये कि इस फाइनेन्स बिल में खास खास चीज़ क्या है, इसके स्पेशल फीचर्स क्या हैं। विशेषतायें यह हैं। गत साल हमने १० हजार के नीचे की आमदनी वाले जो लोग थे उनको रियायत दी। उनके टैक्स में एक पैसे की कमी की और उससे करीब तीन चार करोड़ रुपया कम इनकम टैक्स में आया। इस वर्ष उस के ऊपर के हिस्से की रियायत देनी थी क्योंकि यह नहीं कि हर साल नीचे ही वाले को रियायत दी जाय बल्कि ऊपर वाले को भी देनी होती है। और ऊपर वाले हमारे देश में ऐसे नहीं हैं, बड़े धनवान, कि जिनको अमेरिका की तरह कैपिटैलिस्ट्स (capitalists) कहा जा सके। लेकिन फिर भी अब सिलेक्ट कमेटी में तीन

[श्री भट्ट]

हज़ार की बजाय ३,६०० रुपये की लिमिट और अनडिवाइडेड फ़ैमिली के लिये ७,२०० रुपये की लिमिट बढ़ा दी गयी है। यह कोई कम चीज़ नहीं है और इससे कोई कम फ़ायदा होने वाला है यह मैं नहीं मानता हूँ।

इसके बाद दूसरी एक बात और है जिसको किसी ने नहीं कहा लेकिन वह ग़ौर करने लायक है। मकान बनाने की जो एक्टिविटी है, मकान बनाने की जो प्रवृत्ति है, उसको बढ़ावा देना चाहिये और इसके लिये जो इनकम फ़्रॉम प्रापर्टी (income from property) भी उसके लिये यह तब किया था कि सन् १९५० तक जो मकान बनावेंगे सन् १९४६ से सन् १९५० तक, उन लोगों से दो साल तक कोई इनकम टैक्स प्रापर्टी की इनकम में से नहीं लिया जायगा। अब इस समय इस चीज़ के विषय में क्योंकि पहले तो सीमेंट मिलता नहीं था लेकिन अब कुछ कुछ अंश में मिलने लग गया है तो हमारे फाइनेन्स मिनिस्टर साहब ने यह सोचा कि इस रिआयत को और दो साल के लिय आगे बढ़ा दिया जाय और इस तरह सन् १९५२ तक जो मकान बनेंगे उन मकान बनाने वालों को प्रापर्टी से जो इनकम आवेगी उस पर दो साल तक उनको इनकम टैक्स नहीं देना पड़ेगा। यह कम चीज़ नहीं है। यह खास तौर से मिडिल क्लास और लोअर मिडिल क्लास के लिये अच्छी चीज़ है।

मैं अब पोस्टल समस्या के विषय में और पोस्टल रेट्स के बारे में दो शब्द कहना चाहता हूँ। मैं देखता हूँ कि यह बात तो ठीक है कि हमारे पास आंकड़े नहीं ह, हमारे मिनिस्टर साहब ने यह आंकड़े नहीं दिये और हमारे पास यह चीज़ आज नहीं है कि देहातों में कितने पोस्टकार्ड इस्तेमाल होते हैं और अरबन डिस्ट्रिक्ट्स में कितने पोस्टकार्ड्स इस्तेमाल होते हैं। इसके आंकड़े हमारे पास नहीं हैं। लेकिन मेरा अन्दाज़ यह है कि गांव वाले लोग तो ज्यादातर पोस्टकार्ड नहीं लिखते हैं। वह ज्यादातर बंद चिट्ठी यानी जिसको कवर्स कहते हैं वह अधिक लिखते हैं।

अनेक माननीय सदस्य : नहीं, पोस्टकार्ड लिखते हैं।

श्री भट्ट : यह ठीक है, आपका यह ख्याल होगा। लेकिन मेरा तजुर्बा यह है कि गांव वाले छोटा पोस्टकार्ड नहीं लिखते हैं, उसमें तो चार लकीर लिखी जाती हैं, ज्यादा नहीं। इसलिये वह हमेशा एनवेलप लिखते हैं। लेकिन कुछ भी हो मेरी ग़लती भी हो लेकिन मेरा तजुर्बा यही है कि वह कवर्स में चिट्ठी भेजते हैं।

श्री सिधबा : २५ लाख पोस्टकार्ड लिखे जाते हैं।

श्री भट्ट : लेकिन यह कौन लिखते हैं, गांव वाले पोस्टकार्ड कम लिखते हैं। इसका ब्याल आप कीजिये। दूसरी बात हमारी कम्प्युनिकेशन्स मिनिस्टर साहब ने बताया है कि धीरे धीरे उनकी मंशा छः पैसे तक पहुंचने की है और सब जगह एनवेलप के छः पैसे करने की है। आज पोस्टकार्ड के लिये लोकल का दो पैसे किया है। अब उन्होंने हमें सिलेक्ट कमेटी में बताया कि एक मिसाल दे रहा हूं, कि जयपुर बगैरह में पहले आने पैसे में काम चल जाता था, अब रास्ता यह निकाला है कि झुनझुनु, सीकर और जयपुर यह तीन बड़े डिस्ट्रिक्ट हैं। उसमें करीबन् १२ लाख आदमी हैं। तो इन तीनों को लोकल ही माना जायगा। आप देखिये कि उन्होंने इस तरह से एक चीज को आगे बढ़ाने की कोशिश की है और उन्होंने वादा किया है कि हर पोस्टल डिस्ट्रिक्ट तक यह सहुलियत और रिभायत दी जा सकेगी। तो मैं मानता हूं कि यह उनका एक्सपैरीमेंट है, यह वह एक प्रयोग कर रहे हैं और हम आशा करते हैं कि वह चार या छः महीने में इस प्रयोग में सफल होंगे और हम देखेंगे कि छः महीने के बाद लोगों में उत्साह होगा और दो पैसे में पोस्टकार्ड और छः पैसे में कवर हो जायगा।

अब मैं ज्यादा बातें और नहीं कहना चाहता हूं। एक बात मोटर पार्ट्स के बारे में है। मैं इसमें गहरा नहीं उतरा हूं और इसके मैकेनिकल (mechanical) और टेक्निकल (technical) प्रश्नों को मैं बहुत नहीं जानता हूं। लेकिन एक बात कहना चाहता हूं कि जब सन् १९२१ में फिस्कल कमीशन (fiscal commission) बैठी थी तो फिस्कल कमीशन के सामने यह प्रश्न आई थी कि कौन कौन से उद्योग धन्धों को रक्षण दिया जाय और इसके लिये क्या किया जाय।

उन्होंने इसके लिए कई बातें सुझाई थीं। उन्होंने कायमी टैरिफ बोर्ड का सुझाव दिया जो कि मानद रहा। उन्होंने इसको (टैरिफ बोर्ड को) इसलिए बनाया था कि इस प्रिंसिपल (principle) को ध्यान में रखा जाय कि रक्षण (protection) इस देश में किन चीजों का हो। मेरे पास समय बहुत कम है। मगर तीन चार मिनट तो अभी होंगे। तो मैं आपको इसमें से एक दो हिस्से पढ़कर सुनाना चाहता हूं कि रक्षण देने के लिये किन असूलों को ध्यान में रखा जाय।

पहिला यह है,

"The industry must be one possessing natural advantages such as an abundant supply of raw material, cheap power, a sufficient supply of labour or a large home market."

[श्री भट्ट]

दूसरा,

"The industry must be one which, without the help of protection, either is not likely to develop at all or is not likely to develop so rapidly as is desirable in the interests of the country."

तीसरा,

"The industry must be one which will eventually be able to face world competition without protection."

उन्होंने यह कहा कि इस चीज के सिवा भी दूसरे ऐसे उद्योग बनने हो सकते हैं कि जिनको प्रोटेक्शन दिया जाना चाहिये। इसके माने यह हुए कि उनको किस तरह से सहारा दिया जाय कि वह पनप सकें।

"Another class of industry which should be regarded with a favourable eye"

यह शब्द ध्यान में रखना चाहिये।

"Another class of industry which should be regarded with a favourable eye is that in which there is a probability that in course of time the whole needs of the country could be supplied by the home production."

यह बात ध्यान में रखने की है कि टैरिफ बोर्ड ने सन् १९३१ ई० में जिस समय कि हमारे आज के फाइनेंस मिनिस्टर साहब भी एक सदस्य थे उन्होंने शूगर के बारे में कहा था :

"It must be remembered that the industry differs materially from the class of industrial undertaking which the Fiscal Commission contemplated as normally forming the subject of investigation by the Tariff Board."

इसलिए उन्होंने इस तरह की चीज उसमें रखी।

अभी ओटोमोबाइल (Automobile) पार्ट्स के बारे में अजीत प्रसाद जैन जी ने और टी० टी० कृष्णमाचारी जी ने कहा है उसके बारे में मैं ज्यादा नहीं कहना चाहता क्योंकि इस चीज का मैं माहिर नहीं हूँ। उन्होंने शुरू में अपने स्पीच में इस बात को माना है और ट्रांसपोर्ट मिनिस्ट्री का हवाला दिया है। लेकिन ट्रांसपोर्ट मिनिस्ट्री ने भी अपनी रिपोर्ट में जो बताया है वह इस प्रकार से है :

"With the restricted imports of motor vehicles, it has become all the more necessary to maintain all the existing vehicles on the road. Experience has also shown that with the increased wear and tear, each truck will consume parts worth Rs. 600."

तो एक तरफ तो ६०० रुपये की बात है।

श्री त्यागी : यह कौन सी किताब में है।

श्री भट्ट : इस साल की ट्रांसपोर्ट डिपार्टमेंट की रिपोर्ट में यह चीज है। और सलैक्ट कमेटी के सामने जो नोट आया है उसमें दो हजार का खर्च होना लिखा है। इस चीज का हवाला अजीत प्रसाद जैन ने अपने मिन्यूट आफ डिसेप्स (minutes of

dissent) में दिया है। मैं कहता हूँ कि दो हजार की बात सही मान लीजिये। उन्होंने चार पाई एक मील पर हिसाब लगाया है। यह चार पाई कितने पैसों पर होता है। एक मील पर एक ट्रक कितने पैसों पर को लेकर चलती है। बीस या पचीस से कम तो नहीं। तो यह चार पाई बीस के मुसाफिरों पर लगेगी।

श्री त्यागी : Half the population will be exploited-

श्री भट्ट : तो मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि इस हिसाब से इसमें ऐसी बात नहीं है। मैं इस बहस में आगे नहीं जाना चाहता हूँ। इस चीज की दलील मैं पढ़ना नहीं चाहता हूँ। मैं इतना ही कहना चाहता हूँ कि जिस चीज के लिये आपने जो कहा है वह ठीक मान लेना चाहिये। मैं मानता हूँ कि इस समय रुपया कम है और जो कुछ बन सका वह हमारे सामने है। मेरी सिफारिश यह है कि आप लोगों को सिलेक्ट कमेटी की सिफारिशों को मान लेना चाहिये।

(English translation of the above speech)

Shri Bhatt (Bombay): I am not going to speak on the budget speech or in pursuance of the general discussion. Some friends have called this budget a text-book budget, others have characterised it as an accountant's budget and a conservative budget and still others as a capitalist's budget. I, however, think that it is a practical man's budget. It is the kind of budget a housewife would have who sits at home like a Bania and runs the household. What we have to see is what are we doing for the labourers, the *kisans* and the industrial people. We should go on doing what we have to do. We must, however, decide on our policy. If we want to take over all the country's industries into our own hands and to nationalize them we would have to adapt ourselves accordingly. What are we going to do on a future date? What will be the prospects for labour? What will be the minimum wages, the fair wages and what will be the basis for profit-sharing? Such will be the questions facing us. We have to decide our policy now whether we intend taking over all the industries of the country. We have already enunciated our industrial policy. Are we going to change it over again? If that policy is to be changed, let it be changed; otherwise we have to aid those at present engaged in industries in making further progress so that they might be in a position to put in their best efforts. We do want that the labourers should have a better standard of living, that the cultivators should lead better lives, but there is a third class also, *viz.*, the class of industrialists, whom you call the capitalists, who also deserve to be considered by the Government. The Government has to consider all of them and in formulating his budget, the Finance Minister has considered everybody, in accordance with his policy. He has done so without regard to the fact that some people might like it and other might disapprove of it. Today, however, our hon. Panditji, the Congress Committee and all the people are declaring that we have to increase our production, in any condition, whether it be the production of foodgrains or of cotton, or of jute or industrial production. In view of the condition of India today we have to step up production so that the country might be led on to prosperity. Hence, I wish

[Shri Bhatt]

to assert that we must keep that in view or, otherwise, we should change our policy. Time and again we say to our Government "You have not done this, you have not done that". They must, however, constantly be guided by this policy.

Today, we are encircled on all sides. Everybody wants concessions. The man sitting in this corner is demanding concession that his trappings may be loosened a bit. In the same way, the man in that corner also pleads that he should be shown some clemency. There are, thus, cries from all sides praying that their difficulties should be relieved. Now, it is for the Government to see whose suffering is to be relieved. Sitting on the Works, Mines and Power Committee I too used to assert that the sums provided for the Bhakra Dam, Damodar Valley Project and the Hirakud Project must not be reduced. But, the reply was, "What can we do? Are we to carry forward what is already in operation or concentrate on something that has not even been initiated yet?" We have to concede in this case that the work already in hand alone should be pushed forward, that alone should be sustained and thereby alone should the wealth of our country be increased.

Ch. Ranbir Singh (Punjab): But that work is already at a standstill!

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Please proceed.

Shri Bhatt: Even while you are there several other persons appear to be assuming the functions of the Chair. Now, have we said the expenditure on defence should be reduced? You may have things done without paying for them. But, then, nobody is going to offer that he is prepared to work without remuneration.

Shri Kamath: You do it.

Shri Bhatt: I will when my time comes. Similarly we cannot do anything about health and education. We say the taxation should be reduced. With the question of the middle class comes up the question of the poor class and when we think of the poor we are reminded of those who are poorer still. All these questions crop up before us. Hence, I wish to say that under the circumstances the budget which the hon. Finance Minister has presented on behalf of the Government is a practical budget.

One of my brothers, viz., Shri Subramaniam, has asked where is the need for the appointment of a select committee over the Finance Bill. The idea behind the select committee is that it should try to reduce the incidence of taxation and to advise the Finance Minister or the Finance Department about any provisions that may be necessary to be incorporated in future. It is the Select Committee on the present Finance Bill which alone can make any suggestions for the next year and this is but right. This cannot be considered as improper. I shall cite an example. (*Interruption*). I shall not be able to reply to all questions and queries just now; so please do not interrupt. I wish to cite an example. Last year the Select Committee on the Finance Bill suggested that proceeding on the basis of the exemption limit of three thousand rupees the limit in the case of an undivided Hindu family should be six thousand. It was just a corollary. The Finance Minister could not, however, agree to it then. This time he realized the justifications of the proposals and *suo motu* provided for the six thousand limit. Hence, the complaint that the Government does not consider these matters does not evoke my sympathy.

Now we have to see what are the special features of this Finance Bill. Last year we allowed concessions to income-groups below ten thousand. A reduction of one pice was made in the income-tax in their case which

resulted in a fall of three or four crores of rupees in that tax. This year the higher income-groups had to be given some concession because you cannot go on giving it to the lower ones every time. And, these higher income-groups in our country are not so enormously rich as they are in America. They are not the kind of people you might call capitalists. Still the Select Committee has now raised the limit from Rs. 3,000 to Rs. 3,600 and for the undivided family up to Rs. 7,200. This is not a small concession and its benefits are not going to be inconsiderable.

There is one thing more which requires to be considered but which has not been touched upon by anybody. With a view to encourage house-building activity it was decided that no income-tax was to be charged on income from houses built from 1946 to 1950. Now, in this connection it is to be observed that formerly cement was not available but may now be procured in small quantities. Accordingly, the hon. Finance Minister thought of extending this concession for two years more and provided that those who build houses up to 1952 would be given exemption from the payment of income-tax in respect of the income from those houses. This is not an insignificant concession. It is especially beneficial to the middle and the lower middle classes.

Now I wish to say a few words with regard to the postal problem and the postal rates. I find that we do not possess figures. The hon. Minister has not supplied the figures and today we are not in a position to say what is the number of postcards used in the villages and in the urban districts respectively. The figures are not available to us. My own estimate, however, is that the people in the villages do not generally use postcards. They mostly use the envelopes.

Some Hon. Members: No, they use postcards.

Shri Bhatt: That may be your opinion but I can say from my own observation that the village people do not use the small postcard which cannot contain more than a few lines. For that reason they always use the envelope. I may be wrong but from my experience I say that they send their letters in covers.

Shri Sidhva: Twenty-five lakhs of postcards are used.

Shri Bhatt: But, by whom are they used? The village people seldom write postcards. This is a point to be considered. Besides, the hon. Communications Minister has stated that it is his intention gradually to reduce it to six pice. For purposes of local post the price of a postcard has now been reduced to two pice. This has been done by the Select Committee. I shall cite an example. Formerly, in Jaipur etc. this purpose was served only by a postcard worth one pice. Now the things are such that Jhunjhunu, Sikar and Jaipur are three big districts, inhabited by about 12 lakhs of persons. All three of them would be considered as 'local'. In this way he has tried to introduce an innovation and he has promised to extend that facility and this concession to every postal district. This is just an experiment on his part and we hope that he will succeed in it in four to six months' time. We shall see that after six months people would be enthusiastic about it and finally the 'postcard would be available for two pice and the cover for six pice.

Now I do not wish to say much. Only there is something that I would say about the motor parts. I have not gone deep into the question as I am not properly conversant with its mechanical and technical aspects. I would say, however, that when the Fiscal Commission was appointed in 1921 the question came up for consideration before it as to which of the industries should be given protection and what steps should be taken.

[Shri Bhatt]

about it. They made various suggestions in that connection. They proposed the establishment of a Tariff Board so that the question of granting protection might be decided on principles. There is very little time left at my disposal. But, I hope there are three or four minutes more. I would read out a few extracts from their report which mention the principles to be followed in the grant of protection.

Firstly,

"The industry must be one possessing natural advantages such as an abundant supply of raw material, cheap power, a sufficient supply of labour or a large home market."

Secondly,

"The industry must be one which, without the help of protection, either is not likely to develop at all or is not likely to develop so rapidly as is desirable in the interests of the country."

Thirdly,

"The industry must be one which will eventually be able to face world competition without protection."

They further remarked that there might also be other industries deserving of protection, and support to enable them to thrive. 'Another class of industry which should be regarded with a favourable eye.....' these words are to be noted:

"Another class of industry which should be regarded with a favourable eye is that in which there is a probability that in course of time the whole needs of the country could be supplied by the home production."

It is again to be noted that the Tariff Board made the following remarks about sugar in 1931, when the present Finance Minister was also one of the members:

"It must be remembered that the industry differs materially from the class of industrial undertaking which the Fiscal Commission contemplated as normally forming the subject of investigation by the Tariff Board."

Hence, he has made that kind of provision.

Already Shri Ajit Prasad Jain and Shri T. T. Krishnamachari have given their views about the protection given to automobile parts. I do not wish to add anything as I do not happen to be an expert in that line. In his speech he has referred to what the Ministry of Transport have stated in their report:

"With the restricted imports of motor vehicles, it has become all the more necessary to maintain all the existing vehicles on the road. Experience has also shown that with the increased wear and tear, each truck will consume parts worth about Rs. 600."

Thus, on one hand it is a matter of 600 rupees.

Shri Tyagi: In what book is it given?

Shri Bhatt: This is given in the report of the Transport Department for this year. In the note that has come before the Select Committee an expenditure of two thousand rupees is mentioned. A reference has been made to this by Shri Ajit Prasad Jain in his minute of dissent. I say let the 'two thousand' figure be accepted as correct. He has computed it at the rate of 4 pies per mile. Against how many passengers does the incidence of these four pies lie? With how many passengers abroad does a truck cover one mile? They are not less than twenty or twenty-five. In this way the incidence of these four pies will be as against about twenty passengers.

Shri Tyagi: Half the population will be exploited.

Shri Bhatt: So, I wish to say that judged that way there is not much to be disputed about. I do not wish to go any further into this argument but would say that whatever has been stated about it should be taken as correct. I concede there is a paucity of funds at this juncture and we have before us whatever could be managed under the circumstances. I recommend that we accept the proposals formulated by the Select Committee.

श्री शेख मुहीउद्दीन : हमको यह मालूम होकर कि हमारा बजट, सरप्लस बजट (surplus Budget) है बहुत खुशी होती है और वह शुभ भी बात है। हमारे रिपब्लिक (Republic) के पहले साल में हमारा बजट सरप्लस बजट हुआ है। और साथ ही साथ खुशी, ज्यादा इस बात पर होती है कि जो हमारा बजट सरप्लस दिखाया गया है उसमें जो सरप्लस रुपया है वह मध्य श्रेणी के आदमियों पर से इन्कम टैक्स कम करने पर लगाया जायेगा। यह सच है कि २ हजार या ३६०० रुपया सालाना आमदनी में से एक परिवार के खर्च के लिए कम है। इस तरह से टैक्स (tax) लगा देने से दुश्वारियां बढ़ जायेंगी और परिवार वाले कष्ट में हो जायेंगे। इस लिए यह इन्कमटैक्स लिमिट (income-tax limit) इन्डीविज्युल्स (individuals) पर जिनकी आमदनी ३ हजार से ३६०० है और जिसको सलेक्ट कमेटी (select committee) ने मंजूर किया है मेरे रियारल में वह ठीक है। दूसरा अनडिवाइडेड फैमली (undivided family) का जो ७२०० किया है वह बहुत ही जायज किया है। यानी एक परिवार जहां पर दो आदमी हैं परिवार को मह सोचना चाहिये कि इन दो मेम्बरों (members) के कमाई का पैसा है। इन दोनों मेम्बरों को बालबच्चों को पालना है। इसलिए एक जगह एक इन्डीविज्युल (individual) ३६०० आता है दूसरी जगह दुगना आना चाहिये। इसलिए मेरी तजवीज यह है कि जहां दो मेम्बर एक ज्वाइन्ट फैमली (joint-family) में हैं वहां पर ७२०० का लिमिटेशन (limitation) बहुत ही माफूल है।

दूसरी बात साल्ट टैक्स के बारे में है। यहां पर बहुत से आनरेबिल मेम्बरों (hon. members) ने जिक्र किया है। साल्ट एक ऐसी चीज है जिसको हिन्दुस्तान का हर एक आदमी चाहे वह छोटा हो या बड़ा हो इस्तेमाल करता है और यह सब के लिए कामन (common) चीज है। यहां तक कि मवेशियों के लिए भी यह बहुत ही जरूरी चीज है। पहला वस्तु यह था जबकि ८ आने, १० आने और १२ आने सेर नमक मिलता था। वह लड़ाई का जमाना था। उस समय जनता भयंकर घबराहट में आ गई थी। मगर आज हमारा देश आजाद हो गया है। गान्धी जी की भी यह इच्छा थी कि नमक पर किसी प्रकार का टैक्स न हो। वह कामन मैन (common man) की चीज है। साल्ट में से

[शेख मुहीउद्दीन]

टैक्स को उठा देना बहुत ही अच्छा होगा। इससे सब की भलाई होगी और हर आदमी इससे खुश होगा।

दूसरी चीज यह है कि मैच बाक्स (match-box) एक ऐसी चीज है जो गरीब से गरीब और अमीर से अमीर आदमी के काम में आती है। आज कल बहुत सी चीजें निकली हैं जिससे आग जलाने का काम लिया जाता है, लेकिन उनसे अमीर आदमी का ही काम चल सकता है। पेट्रोल (petrol) की एक नई बत्ती निकली है, लेकिन वह गरीबों के पास नहीं है। उनका काम तो मैच बाक्स से ही चलता है इस लिये मैच बाक्स में भी ड्यूटी (duty) का घटा देना या उठा देना सब से अच्छा होगा।

मैच बाक्स की ड्यूटी की तो यह बात है, परन्तु में मोटर (Motor) पर से टैक्स उठा देने या मिटा देने का, पक्षपाती नहीं हूँ, क्योंकि यह तो एक विलासिता की चीज है और हमारा देश जब अभी इतना होशियार नहीं हुआ है, और आर्थिक समस्या अभी हल नहीं हुई है, ऐसी हालत में हमारे देश में विलासिता की जितनी चीजें हैं उन पर अगर टैक्स हो तो कोई नुकसान नहीं है। दूसरे बात यह है कि मोटर वही रखते हैं जो अमीर हैं। कुछ आनरेबल मेम्बरों ने कहा है कि एक मोटर पर एक माह में पांच सौ रुपया खर्च आता है। जो इतना खर्च कर सकते हैं वह क्यों नहीं थोड़ा टैक्स दे सकते हैं क्योंकि वह तो गवर्नमेंट में आयेगा भले ही इन्डाइरेक्ट (indirect) तरीके से अदा किया जाय। बल्कि वह भाई जो तीन सौ रुपया माहवार कमाते हैं उन पर टैक्स नहीं होना चाहिये। जो पांच सौ रुपया मोटर में खर्च करते हैं उन पर टैक्स लगे यह जरूरी चीज है।

मगर यह बात अफसोस के साथ कहनी पड़ती है कि जो तम्बाकू में टैक्स पहले कुछ रोज केवल एक आना था वह आज चार आने तक आ गया है। यह बड़े दुःख की बात है। आज ऐग्रीकल्चरिस्ट (agriculturist) पर कुछ ध्यान नहीं दिया जाता। ऐग्रीकल्चर को बढ़ाने की कुछ कोशिश नहीं की जाती। यह मेरे कुछ भाई, कुछ माननीय सदस्य भी मेरे पहले कह चुके हैं, और मैं भी यह बात दोहराता हूँ कि आज इस देश के ऐग्रीकल्चरिस्ट ही हैं जो अपने देश की उन्नति कर सकते हैं। ऐग्रीकल्चर ही एक ऐसी चीज है जिससे हमारे देश का दुःख मिट सकता है। और ऐग्रीकल्चर ही ऐसी चीज होती है जिससे हर देश में और मुल्कों से वाणिज्य व्यापार हो सकता है। मगर इस पर ध्यान नहीं दिया जाता है, यह बड़े दुःख की

बात है कि देश के ऐग्रीकल्चर पर और तम्बाकू पर आज टैक्स दिनो-दिन बढ़ रहा है। साथ ही साथ पटवा ऐसी चीज है जो हमारे देश में काफी पैसा ला सकता है बाहर से। उसके लिये भी कुछ कोशिश नहीं की जाती है। हमारे यहां, इंडिया में भी, बहुत सी ऐसी जगहें हैं जहां पटवा हो सकता है, लेकिन हम लोग सोचते हैं कि भाई, पाकिस्तान तो अलग हो गया और पटवा सिर्फ पाकिस्तान में ही हो सकता है, और उसके बिना हम चल नहीं सकते हैं। मैं दावे के साथ कह सकता हूँ कि हिन्दुस्तान में बहुत सी ऐसी जगहें हैं जहां कोशिश करने से, गवर्नमेंट की तरफ से कोई योजना निकालने से, जरूर अगर १६ आना नहीं तो आंशिक रूप से ही हमारे देश की डिमांड (demand) पूरी हो सकती है। उड़ीसा में भी पटवा होता है, वेस्ट बंगाल में काफी पटवा होता है पश्चिमी दिनाजपुर, पश्चिमी मालदा और पूनिया में, दरभंगा में पटवा होता है। मैं तो यह कह सकता हूँ कि पश्चिमी दिनाजपुर, पश्चिमी मालदा और पूनिया में इतनी ग्रोथ (growth) होती है कि उदनी ईस्ट बंगाल (East Bengal) में भी नहीं हो सकती है। पाकिस्तान की पैदावर इसका मुकाबिला नहीं कर सकती। मगर बहुत दिनों से धह देखा जाता है कि ट्रान्सपोर्ट (transport) की डिफिकल्टी (difficulty) से यह काम कम हो गया है जिससे इन्डाइरेक्ट (indirect) तरीके से किसानों की क्षति हो रही है कलकत्ते तक जो मार्ग-दर होता है उसका २।३ हिस्सा भी किसानों को नहीं मिलता है और उसमें उसका काफी घाटा होता है। इसी लिये आहिस्ता-आहिस्ता पटवा की खेती बहुत कम होती जा रही है। यह बड़े दुःख की बात होगी अगर हमारी गवर्नमेंट पटवा की इतनी जरूरत होते हुए भी इसकी खेती को बढ़ाने के लिये कोशिश न करे और नय तरीके से इसके लिये कोई योजना न निकाले ताकि देश में जो अभाव है उसमें कुछ कमी हो।

इतना ही कह कर मैं एक बार फाइनेन्स मिनिस्टर साहब को धन्यवाद देता हूँ और सेलेक्ट कमेटी (Select Committee) को धन्यवाद देता हूँ कि वह इतनी आसानी आम लोगों के लिये ला रहे हैं। उन्होंने, फाइनेन्स की सेलेक्ट कमेटी ने जो रिपोर्ट (Report) तैयार की है बहुत अच्छी चीज उन्होंने तैयार की है और हमारे देश के लिये उस में आनन्द की झलक है।

(English translation of the above speech)

Saikh Mohiuddin (Bihar): It is much gratifying and auspicious to note that the first Budget of our Republic happens to be a surplus one. It is a matter of further gratification that the amount shown as 'surplus' is proposed to be utilized towards reducing the income-tax burden on our middle-class. It is, of course, true that an average family is hard put to

[Saikh Mohiuddin]

meet their expenditure within an annual income of Rs. 3,000 or Rs. 3,600. The imposition of such taxes would only add to the difficulties which the people are already called upon to face in so many ways. I, therefore, regard the Select Committee's recommendation for raising the limit of income-tax on individual earnings from Rs. 3,000 to Rs. 3,600 to be a very appropriate one. Again, the decision to raise this limit in case of 'Undivided family' to Rs. 7,200 is equally a very appropriate one. It implies that a family with two earning members who have to support their children, should get such exemption on the basis of Rs. 3,600 per head which means up to Rs. 7,200 for two earning individuals in such cases. It is but a logical course to follow. I am, therefore, of the opinion that the imposition of a Rs. 7,200 limitation in cases of families with two earning members, is most appropriate.

Further, I wish to say something in connection with the Salt-tax. Many hon. Members have made a reference to it. Every citizen of this country, whether rich or poor is accustomed to the use of this commodity which is so common a requirement to all of us. Not only that; the requirements of the cattle are equally of much importance. Formerly in war-days, salt used to sell at the rate of eight, ten or twelve annas per seer. People were feeling frightfully nervous in those days. But our country has since attained its freedom. Gandhiji also desired that salt should be exempted from a levy of tax of any description, whatever. It is a commodity of vital importance to the 'common-man'. Abolition of tax on salt will, indeed, be a very desirable step to take. It will be beneficial to everyone alike and our people as a whole will be only too pleased over its abolition.

Match-box, again, is an article of equal use for the poor as well as for the rich. Many other means have, no doubt, been discovered now to light a fire, but they are of use to the rich only. A new type of petrol-lamp has been invented recently. The poor, however, are unable to own one. Their daily requirements can be met only by a match-box. For this reason we had better to reduce or abolish duty on match-box as well.

Whereas this is precisely my attitude towards the tax on match-box, I certainly do not favour the idea of abolition of tax on motors. I regard 'motor' an article of luxury and, in my opinion, there shall come no harm to us if all luxury goods continue to be taxed till our country comes to its own and its multiple financial problems have been solved completely. Again it is the rich only who can afford to keep a motor. Some hon. Members have told us that a 'motor' requires a monthly expenditure of Rs. 500 as the running charges. There is no reason why those people cannot afford to pay a little tax to the Government when they are in a position to incur such heavy expenditure. It may be that the tax in question happens to be paid indirectly, but it certainly form a part of the general revenue of the Government. On the other hand, we should exempt only such of our brethren whose monthly income does not exceed Rs. 300. It is but a logical corollary that those in a position to spend Rs. 500 monthly merely on a motor, should also pay a little tax.

It is with a feeling of regret that I have to voice against the raising of tax on tobacco to annas four where it used to be only one anna before. It is indeed very painful that we have become unmindful of the interests of the agriculturists these days. Their cause is being pushed further in no way. I also repeat what a few hon. Members have said that ultimately it is the agriculturists of this country only who can take the country ahead on the path of progress and it is the agriculture again which can cure all our ills. Foreign trade of any country is dependent mainly on its agriculture. But we seem to be regardless of that fact. It is much deplorable that taxation on agricultural produce and particularly on tobacco

should be enhanced so frequently. Jute is, again, a commodity which can bring us large earnings from foreign countries. No efforts in that behalf are being made either. In India there are many such places where we can raise handsome crops and jute. We are, however, prone to think that with the cessation of parts known now as Pakistan, we have become helpless to depend on Pakistan for procurement of jute. I claim it emphatically that, given the best of efforts and a governmental scheme in this behalf, many places can be found in India which can meet a major part of our demands in this respect. Jute is cultivated at present in Orissa, West Bengal, West Dinajpur, West Malda, Purnia and Darbhanga districts. I can rather go further to say that there is so much growth of this commodity in West Dinajpur, West Malda and Purnia as to excel even that of East Bengal. Pakistan cannot compete us in the matter of its production. For many days past, however, it has been observed that the work is suffering because of transport difficulties. Indirectly it is resulting in loss to the 'kisans'. They are not paid even two-third of the transport expenses incurred in moving the goods upto Calcutta. They are, thereby put to an appreciable loss. This has a gradual effect to decrease the production of jute day by day. It will be much regrettable on the part of the Government if they do nothing to increase jute production despite a scarcity being felt in this behalf. We shall be sorry, again, if no new methods or schemes are thought of whereby to remove this scarcity to any extent.

In conclusion, I congratulate the hon. Minister of Finance once more as also the Select Committee for their efforts to provide maximum facilities to the people. The Report prepared by the Select Committee is a commendable work which definitely contains glimpses of future prosperity of our people.

Dr. Deshmukh: I feel like congratulating the Select Committee for obtaining certain concessions from the hon. the Finance Minister. I also appreciate the accommodation shown by the hon. the Finance Minister. But so far as our financial policy is concerned, I think we are still acting by fits and starts. There is no stability. There is no well-chalked out plan. When we attained freedom, we thought that there was prosperity and plenty in the land. We started planning in terms of millions of rupees without realising that we were not so rich as we thought. Soon afterwards, the ghost of inflation started raising its head. We appointed several Committees and consulted industrialists, economists and others. What happened to the suggestions and reports made by these people is another story. But I am referring to a Committee consisting of 25 Members of this House which was appointed and which produced a long Report. That Report has been treated by the hon. the Finance Minister as a plague rat. I do not think any more value has been attached to that Report.

Dr. Matthal: It was not a Committee of the House.

Dr. Deshmukh: It was a Committee consisting of Members of this House. I do not know if it was appointed by Government. Prof. Ranga took great pains over it and in view of the results obtained I think I should pity him for his fruitless labours. Since about six months everyone in the country started thinking that there was a financial crisis and that we were being overtaken by a monster of economic dislocation and God alone knew what would happen. People were not wanting who declared that we were heading towards a crash and financial bankruptcy. We do not yet know whether that crisis has passed. At any rate, nobody has made bold to say that the crisis has passed.

[Dr. Deshmukh]

On the one hand, I appreciate the accommodation shown by the hon. the Finance Minister. On the other hand, I regret that he has thrown away many well-established avenues of revenue. He ought to have put his foot down and not given certain concessions so easily. I am not at the moment at any rate referring to the concessions given to industrialists. So far as the Select Committee Report is concerned, they say in paragraph 2 :

"In view of the fact that some relief has already been given in the Finance Bill to the higher income groups, we have carefully considered the possibility of giving some relief to those at the other end."

Now, I do not know what the Members who served on the Select Committee meant by 'those at the other end'. So far as, 'those at the other end' are concerned, I regret to say that the Select Committee has not been able to help them. After all, how big is the section of people who are likely to earn between Rs. 3,000 and Rs. 3,600 per annum? It is very small indeed. Although I belong more or less to that section, I do not think that this concession is at all worthwhile. The concession should have been given so far as the rural population and the ordinary man in the street are concerned. If something on those lines had been done, there would have been greater cause for congratulating the Select Committee as well as the hon. the Finance Minister. I wish this relief had not been given, because on the one hand we are asking people to save compulsorily and doing various other things and on the other, we are giving relief to these people on whom the burden is not so heavy or back-braking as to make it absolutely necessary to give this concession.

Then, so far as taxation on motor cars and spare parts is concerned, a controversy has been going on on this point ever since this morning. I for one feel that there is much to be said in regard to it. In any case, there is a fit case for carefully investigating the matter before these rates for various items are agreed to. The House has a suspicion—and if the House has a suspicion the nation has a suspicion—that all these protective duties and all this raising of taxation is intended to benefit certain individual concerns and that it is not intended for national benefit. Very often, the hon. the Prime Minister and the hon. the Deputy Prime Minister say: "We, expect the people of India, to sacrifice in the interests of the nation and to put up with privations and hardships."

Now I can assure you, Sir, that the people of this country are prepared to make any sacrifice, if they are called upon to do so, but they are not prepared to bear any ills which arise out of the foolishness of the administration—ills, for instance, like the scarcity of sugar which was brought about by utter inefficiency and mismanagement on the part of the administration. If sacrifice is really needed on our part, I have no doubt if the hon. Finance Minister were to come forward that he wants more money this House would not grudge it. Time is the essence of everything. We want to hurry up; we do not want to be taken unawares by other nations. If the Finance Minister were to come forward and say that prohibition for the next ten years should be suspended, or if he were to suggest that the salt duty should be reimposed, I have not the slightest doubt that the country would be ready to accept it, so long as they are sure that the money that will be derived will be utilised for nation-building and proper purposes. This House has shown its willingness again and again to accept the taxation proposals of the Finance Minister. In fact, it has gone out of its way and asked: "Why do you not ask for more money." As long as that readiness is shown by the people, I think it is up to the Finance Minister to see that he obtains every possible rupee by way of

taxation and also see that none of it is wasted, that none of it is squandered, and that the resources of the nation are used for the betterment of the country.

Now, so far as the imposition of the duty on motor vehicles and spares are concerned, I am afraid it is going to result in very heavy transport charges. I am told that the hon. Mr. Santhanam will have to ask for Rs. 10 lakhs more, as a result of the proposed taxation, for the Delhi Transport Service alone. I do not know how far that is true, but in any case most of the provinces and States are having their own transport services and as a result of higher duty on motor spares, higher sales tax and higher allowances to the workers on account of the implementation of the recommendations of the Pay Commission's report, transport charges are going to rise.

There is also as a result of this taxation, a certain amount of handicap in utilising Diesel oil engines and Diesel trucks. There is another suspicion prevalent in the country that certain industrial concerns in the land are interested in keeping the use of petrol where it would be possible to use crude oil and Diesel oil and that these taxation measures are going to be utilised for discouraging the use of Diesel oil, which can be produced from the excess coal that we have. I would like the hon. the Finance Minister to look into this, because there is at least one State in India which wants to go over to the use of Diesel engines which according to scientific calculations is 42 pies per mile cheaper than petrol. To the extent of saving 42 pies per mile, there will be a saving of lakhs and crores to the nation.

Secondly, we will be able to bring into existence an industry for the manufacture of Diesel oil and crude oil from our excess coal. It may not be possible to investigate into the effects of these taxation measures just now. But, if after investigation, it is found that it is likely to affect our transport, which is the life-blood of the nation, and lead to increased price of food-grains and other necessities of life, I am sure, the hon. the Finance Minister will look into it.

So far as prohibition is concerned, I have given notice of an amendment which I will have no chance to move. But in the case of those provinces which resort to prohibition, in spite of the advice of the Centre, I would suggest that the subsidies given by the Centre should be cut, so that they may not squander the money. There is ample time for us to be virtuous. Let us go on with the present arrangements for ten years and after we have secured as much money as possible, for all the great purposes for which we want it let us introduce prohibition. During the next few years we could also probably produce all liquor we need.

It was gratifying to note, that there is going to be some relief in the prices of kerosene and petrol. But even here I would very much like that the use of petrol should be cut down and the use of Diesel and crude oil should be encouraged.

My hon. friend Mr. Sidhva referred to an investigation by a committee which went into the question of taxation of spare parts. My hon. friend the Minister for Industry and Supply will perhaps clarify whether he has accepted the recommendation of one single individual, as against that of five others who were against that proposal.

Dr. Matthal: He was referring to salt.

Dr. Beshmakh: I think he was referring to protection to motor industry.

So far as our finances are concerned, there is really no attempt to economise, except the pre-determined and inelastic scale of 10 or 15 per

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cent. But I can quote instances from the Ministries with the working of which I am familiar where insufficient consideration is shown to the tax-payers' money, as if consideration of Central Government's money is nobody's concern and is got cheap. Schemes which cost lakhs and crores go through as easily as those costing a few hundred rupees. If, therefore, the Finance Minister is convinced that the crisis is not past and that we must conserve every possible source of income, I would not mind the Finance Minister trying to get every pie of revenue that it is possible for him to get in whatever way he considers it proper and desirable.

Shri Tyagi: I will not take much time of the House. While placing one or two points before the House, I would appeal to Dr. John Matthai, a good Christian as he is, to listen to these points in the true spirit of Christianity. I was under the impression that Mathematics is the safest and most accurate medium for calculation.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It largely depends upon the person who calculates.

Shri Tyagi: Here it does not seem so. The Finance Ministry seems to be manipulating these figures in a manner which really is unjust to many persons weaker than the Central Government.

Now, the income-tax on companies has been reduced from 5 annas to 4 annas. A reduction is always welcome. Now the exemption limit on individual incomes has been fixed at Rs. 3,600. Some of these people may be holding shares in companies. These people used to get a refund of 5 annas per rupee derived from the shares. Now since it has been reduced to 4 annas, these people's income will be reduced to the extent of one anna in five annas. This is a thing which goes against the spirit of the exemption. The House does not want incomes below the exemption limit to be taxed at all. It means a tax at a rate more than the rate which the income-tax payees in the second slab will pay. They will pay 9 pies in the rupee and these people will pay one anna in the rupee. That is a thing which may even now be cured. The Select Committee has not taken notice of it. I suggest that an amendment may be made by which people who get less than Rs. 1,500 may be given relief and their income from company shares may not be reduced.

Then there is the corporation tax. It has been increased. I thought Dr. Matthai would be fair. Let him be a judge. Let him stand between the Government and the taxpayers. He is a good Christian. The country has faith in his judgment. Let him decide whether his Ministry has advised him fairly. He has increased the corporation tax from two annas to two annas three pies whatever be the income. Now, a man who was having an income of Rs. 1,400 or Rs. 1,500 a year from a company was not liable to tax under the Income-tax Act. But Dr. Matthai has now come forward with an increased corporation tax which will also fall on people who are getting less than Rs. 1,500 at the rate of six pies in the rupee because he has raised the tax which is now existing from annas two to annas two and six pies.

An Hon. Member: This does not apply to individuals.

Shri Tyagi: It applies because the income of the company is taxable, by income, I mean the cumulative profit of the company. My friend is under the impression that a company is the sole property of the managing directors. The income of the shareholders will be reduced to the extent of tax deductions. So I submit that at least the lowest slab ought not to be touched by the enhanced rate of the corporation tax. I feel that to

tax that slab is an offence against old usage and it is criminal to take a pie from such people. I want to leave it to the sense of justice and mercy of Dr. Matthai to see if he cannot even now exempt people like shareholders getting below Rs. 1,500 from this corporation tax.

I have got one more point to mention for which I request you, Sir, to grant one more minute. I want to refer to the sugar question. I would suggest to Dr. Matthai to catch his nose directly and not in a roundabout way. Now there is a suggestion that the protection duty will go. This duty is levied at Rs. 6-12-0 per cwt. Then there is another excise levy at Rs. 3-12-0 per cwt. and then there is the one-fifth surcharge. We have thus built a wall which is Rs. 12-10-0 high.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The old wall continues.

Shri Tyagi: But why rename the wall? Let it remain the old old city wall. You want to call it a revenue wall. It was a protective wall in which people had confidence. You have now changed it into a revenue wall of the same height. The calculation will be the same. Where is the justification of your keeping the surcharge? If the excise duty is raised the height of the revenue wall will automatically be raised? Revenue duty ought not to be raised in an indirect manner. I am conventionally against any protection duty for sugar industry to continue. If you are going to treat it as revenue duty, please do so after the enquiry in regard to the sugar scandal is completed, and do not relate it with the excise duty or the surcharge. Revenue duty is a fixed duty irrespective of excise duty.

Then, there is the idea of importing sugar from soft currency areas. If that is done there is very poor chance of the consumer or the producer getting any benefit of the local forces of competition.

Ch. Ranbir Singh: I cannot help saying that this Budget or the Budget speech or the Select Committee Report would have been ideal ones had they been presented to the House ten years ago. But today when the voters of this house are the masses and not merely the income-tax payers. I do not feel that this Budget or the Report of the Select Committee is an ideal one. I see only one thing which can console me in this Report and that is the Dissenting Minute of Shri Biswanath Das. I see some hope in it if the precedents pointed out by Shri Gokulbhai Bhatt are followed. Though the Dissenting Minute is only that of one Member, I can assure the hon. the Finance Minister that the overwhelming majority of the population of this country agree with it. The income-tax payers are only 15 per cent. of the population. Eighty-five per cent. of the people in our land are agriculturists. My friend has several times hinted in this House that land revenue is the subject with which the agriculturists are more concerned and that it is a provincial subject. I can only say to that that your voters, whom you will have to face after one year, are not going to absolve you from the duties which they trusted you to discharge, merely on the ground, when you say that it is a provincial subject.

I want to say in this connection that there should be no disparity in the system of taxation of the country. Here you are levying income-tax on the principle that a man whose income does not exceed Rs. 3,600 should not be taxed, while with regard to agriculturists you do not show any consideration on that ground saying that the subject is a provincial subject. This land revenue system has been prevalent in this country for long. There was a time when people used to say that land revenue is rent and not a tax. I do not think that that time still continues. Now nobody can say it is rent. It is a tax. Now everybody will have to

[Ch. Ranbir Singh]

agree with that view because the Government today is of the people and by the people. When the Government is that of the people, by the people and for the people, this land revenue cannot be considered a rent. If you just compare the land revenue system with the income-tax system, you will agree with me that there is a disparity between these two systems of taxation. A man whether he produces anything or does not produce anything, whether he owns a *bigha* of land or whether he cultivates on other's land he is liable to pay the taxation. In any case I could not agree that these concessions which you have given to the industrialists or to the middle-class people are justified. May I ask whether you have made some grants to the Provincial Governments in order that they may reduce the land revenue? I may tell the House that in the Punjab the Government have been compelled to increase the canal rates. Somebody may say that these rates are for services. I can say in reply to that that it is absolutely wrong, because we in the Punjab have paid many times the amount invested on the canals. So you cannot say that these charges are for some particular services or interest on the investment. You may feel inclined to leave the matter aside for the moment but you cannot say the same thing about land revenue. Unless and until you have got as much resources to have the same taxation on the same footing, you should not decrease the level of taxation.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member can speak for one or two minutes more.

Ch. Ranbir Singh: Shall I be allowed to continue tomorrow.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The House will sit for three or four minutes more. They are very anxious to hear the hon. Member.

Ch. Ranbir Singh: My hon. friend, the Finance Minister, has given many facilities to the industrialists. We have the Industrial Finance Corporation, my hon. friend has not even cared to say anything about the Agricultural Finance Corporation. My hon. friend says that it is a provincial subject. I may just point out to him that the prices of agricultural products is a central subject. My hon. friend has not been able to give an assurance to the agriculturists today in this country that he is prepared to buy their agricultural produce on some certain minimum economic price whatsoever may happen. When Mr. Boyd-Orr the Secretary of the U.N.O. came to this country, I had a talk with him. He told me that even in America they could not raise the agricultural production till the time when the Government came forward and gave an assurance to the agriculturists that they would take the responsibility of buying the agricultural products at a certain minimum economic price.

The other day I pointed out to my hon. friend Shri Jairamdasjee that lakhs of maunds of gram are lying in the Punjab and in the East Patiala State Union and they are rotting, I requested him to press the Punjab Government and the Patiala State Union to come forward to buy that grain. He told me that he could not take the responsibility because he has not got any storage accommodation. I want to tell my hon. friend that if facilities for storing this grain were given today, they may be able to store the grains for some time and afterwards they can sell that at a profit. Some of my friends may say that the money has gone to the agriculturists, but I do not agree with them. May I point out another thing about the price structure? You just go through the price level of wheat. In Jaipur where there is no canal system the minimum price is fixed at Rs. 10 and in Bombay, where there are some irrigation facilities the price

of wheat is Rs. 17. I speak to correction as I am speaking from memory. This disparity in the price level cannot pay you in the long run and this state of affairs will not satisfy the agriculturist. The time has come, my friend, when you and I will have to go before him and it will be he and his class who will be responsible for bringing the Members of this House. If you want to stabilise yourself, then you must hear him and you must be wise enough to understand the situation. I can tell you that today the agriculturist is not very much educated but he knows his interests and if you are not going to serve his interests, he is not going to spare you.

The House then adjourned till a Quarter to Eleven of the Clock on Thursday, the 30th March, 1950.