

Thursday  
11th March, 1948

THE  
CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY OF INDIA  
(LEGISLATIVE DEBATES)

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SECOND SESSION  
of the  
CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY OF INDIA (LEGISLATIVE)  
1948



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# CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY OF INDIA (LEGISLATIVE)

Thursday, 11th March, 1948

The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber of the Council House at a Quarter to Eleven of the Clock, Mr. Speaker (The Honourable Mr. G. V. Mavalankar) in the Chair.

## DECLARATION BY MEMBERS

The following members made the declaration under Rule 2C:

Misra Nand Lal (East Punjab: General); and Lal Achint Ram (East Punjab: General).

## STARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

### (a) ORAL ANSWERS

#### INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES REPRESENTED BY INDIA

685. \*Seth Govinddas: (a) Will the Honourable the Prime Minister be pleased to lay on the table of the House a statement showing the number of International Conferences in which the Government of India were represented, their venues and the names of the Indian Delegates thereto, since the advent of the Interim National Government?

(b) What is the cost incurred by Government on account of these conferences?

The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru: (a) A statement<sup>†</sup> has been laid on the table of the House.

(b) The cost as far as could be ascertained is Rs. 29,83,000 in round figures. Details are given in the statement referred to in the answer to part (a) of the question.

I might add that the statement is a fairly lengthy one running into 25 typed pages.

Seth Govinddas: Is it a fact, Sir, that the majority of these delegations were led by officials who were either serving under the Government of India or in the States?

The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru: I could not say "majority" without looking up the names again, but some were.

Seth Govinddas: Were any non-officials of eminence in this country also approached to lead some of these delegations?

The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru: The normal course is for technical delegations to be led by officials or technical people. Each delegation is normally chosen by the Ministry concerned; that Ministry then ought to, or does, refer the names to the External Affairs Department merely to see that there is no overlapping so far as each Ministry is concerned. Now if there is a matter in regard to commerce, it is obvious that the persons who have dealt with that matter for months and months in the Department are best qualified to deal with it with other officials of other Governments. Of

<sup>†</sup>Not printed in these Debates. A copy has been placed in the Library of the House—  
Ed. of D.

course these are more or less Governmental conferences; there may be a matter in regard to information and publicity and these people should therefore know the technical aspect of it. So, inevitably the persons chosen have a certain specialised qualification.

In regard to another type of delegation like the United Nations, one would more often choose non-officials to lead such delegations as U.N.E.S.C.O. etc. But more and more these international conferences become conferences dealing with very special subjects.

**Seth Govinddas:** Is it not a fact, Sir, that even in such delegations where technical advice was not required officials led those delegations and the majority of the members were also officials?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** Very probably. I think in the future more and more officials are likely to take part in such conferences in the very nature of things, because the old difference between official and non-official tends to disappear and the man qualified for a job often becomes an official. Now, it is rather an odd thing that we should not use a very qualified person who has been specially selected for that, and use a non-official who may be very able but who may be completely out of touch with the actual things that may have developed with regard to that matter.

**Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar:** Will Government consider the desirability of associating with such delegations non-official members of this House who are in the Standing Committee relating to the particular Department?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** Yes, of course. But I said that each Ministry deals with it and each Ministry will consider that and it has considered it. The External Affairs Department has been concerned chiefly with the United Nations General Assembly Delegation. Normally speaking, all the other delegations go either from the Education Ministry, or the Commerce or Industry and Supply Ministries or some other Ministry; they also have that in view. But if I may say so again, more and more these conferences deal with highly specialised matters which had been studied for months and months by individuals. The sudden importing of a person who has not been in touch is a burden on him and does not help the delegation very much, but the principle that the Honourable Member has laid down is obviously accepted to the best of our ability.

**Shri K. V. Kamath:** Does the Honourable the Prime Minister propose to invite occasionally an international conference to India?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** Yes. I think one such conference is going to be held in India in the course of a few months in Ootacamund—I think the meeting of the Social and Economic Council, Far Eastern Section.

It is not an easy matter to invite these conferences here. The burden of holding an international conference is a heavy one. In Delhi we can hardly hold any conferences because of lack of accommodation; we suddenly require accommodation for about 200 persons on a high scale—the scale is very high of the type of accommodation that is required. I have known a case of an offer being made for a conference to be held here, which was rejected by the Ministry because they said we cannot shoulder that burden.

**Shri Biswanath Das:** May I know, Sir, whether the Honourable the Prime Minister has taken note of the fact that in other countries leadership of the delegations is not generally given to officials and that they are generally led by non-officials of eminence?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** Well I had taken note of the fact but in a completely reverse way: that in other countries they are officials.

**Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar:** Arising out of answer to (b), are the



estimates looked into in advance to avoid wastage regarding particularly hard currencies?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** I do not quite know; in a delegation certain rules are followed in regard to the payment of expenses of that delegation. What exactly does the Honourable Member suggest?

**Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar:** Is the Government aware that in the Food Conference that was held in Geneva about 600 odd delegates from various countries and the public were also entertained at our cost? Particularly the Swiss francs are hard currency so far as we are concerned. Therefore where such expenditure in such hard currencies is concerned, as far as possible the matter should be looked into in advance and wastage sought to be avoided.

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** In other words, in the case of a delegation to a country where expenditure in hard currencies is involved, we should send a smaller delegation and see that they do not spend much?

**Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar:** Yes, Sir.

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** I hope so; certainly.

#### INDIAN AND FOREIGN STEAMERS PLYING ON INDIAN COASTS

**686. \*Mr. R. K. Sidhva:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Commerce be pleased to state the total number of steamers owned by foreigners and Indians which ply on Indian coasts?

(b) What is the total number of Indian and non-Indian officials working as crew on the steamers owned by foreigners?

(c) Have these companies refused to employ Indians?

(d) Is it a fact that discrimination between foreigners and Indian Nationals is shown by the non-Indian companies in the matter of salaries, mess etc?

**The Honourable Mr. C. H. Bhabha:** (a) I have assumed that the Honourable Member has in mind the coastal trade of India, which is generally taken to mean, the trade on the coasts of India, Burma and Ceylon. 57 steamers of 142,512 tons gross owned by Indians and 54 steamers of 296,676 tons gross owned by non-Indians are employed in such trade.

(b) Indians 303,

Non-Indians 397,

(c) No Sir.

(d) No Sir; though there is apparently some disparity in the rates of pay and terms governing leave.

**Mr. R. K. Sidhva:** May I know, Sir, how many of the Captains and Chief Officers of the steamers owned by the British Indian Steam Navigation Company are foreigners and how many Indians?

**The Honourable Mr. C. H. Bhabha:** I have no such detailed information at the moment.

**Mr. R. K. Sidhva:** The Honourable Minister stated that there were 303 Indians and 397 non-Indians. From this, may I know in which of the Companies the foreigners are mostly employed?

**The Honourable Mr. C. H. Bhabha:** There are two foreign-owned Companies, namely the British India and the East Asiatic which are plying on the coast of India and most of their officers are foreigners.

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** May I know, Sir, if the managing agency of a recently started Indian Steamship Company is entrusted to a foreign agency?

**The Honourable Mr. C. H. Bhabha:** I do not know which particular Company he is referring to. If he will specifically mention the Company. . .

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** The Indian Steamship Company.

**The Honourable Mr. C. H. Bhabha:** Their managing agents are Lionel Edwards Ltd. That is owned jointly by Indians and Non-Indians.

**Prof. H. G. Ranga:** Is it a fact that Government have been trying to induce the B.I.S.N. to employ more and more Indian officers?

**The Honourable Mr. C. H. Bhabha:** That is correct. We have been using the best possible influence to see that more and more Indians are employed:

**Mr. B. K. Sridhva:** Is it not a fact that previously Lionel Edwards Ltd. was a company owned mostly by German people and now partly by Britishers? May I know what is the percentage of Indian interests in that concern now?

**The Honourable Mr. C. H. Bhabha:** I should like to have specific notice of this question.

**Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar:** To meet the shortage of ships, is there any proposal to purchase any merchant ships or to charter any? \*

**The Honourable Mr. C. H. Bhabha:** All possible assistance is given by Government for making purchases, and if I may inform the House, recently with the assistance of Government about five or six ships have been bought from the United States Maritime Commission out of their disposals stocks for two or three Shipping Companies in India.

**Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar:** Is there any proposal to purchase any merchant ships by the Government itself and as far as possible run the coastal shipping?

**The Honourable Mr. C. H. Bhabha:** There is no such proposal at the moment

**Shri K. Santhanam:** May I know, Sir, if the Government are taking steps to ensure that only good ships are bought?

**The Honourable Mr. C. H. Bhabha:** That information of my friend is incorrect. The ships that are purchased are purchased only after very careful survey and inspection and only if they are suitable to our conditions.

**Mr. B. K. Sridhva:** How old were they, Sir?

**The Honourable Mr. C. H. Bhabha:** Most of these were war-time constructed ships.

#### CHHATTISGARH STATES AND PROPOSED MAHANADI PROJECT

†687. **Shri Kishori Mohan Tripathi:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Works, Mines and Power be pleased to state whether any of the Chhattisgarh states shall be in a position to take advantage of the proposed Mahanadi Multi-Purpose Project?

(b) If so, which of the states in particular shall be in the said position?

**The Honourable Shri H. V. Gadgil:** (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

#### RESCUE OF ABDUCTED WOMEN AND CHILDREN IN INDIA AND PAKISTAN

688. **Shri Basanta Kumar Das:** Will the Honourable Minister of Relief and Rehabilitation be pleased to state:

(a) what programme was followed by the Governments of India and Pakistan to make the "Restore Women and Children" week a success;

(b) how many abducted women and children have been rescued in India and Pakistan as a result of the drive;

(c) whether those rescued include any women and children abducted during the disturbances in Noakhali and if so, what their numbers are;

\* Answer to this question laid on the table, the questioner being absent.

(d) whether Government propose to intensify their endeavour for the rescue work by continuing the drive; and

(e) whether Government have received full co-operation of the Government of Pakistan in their endeavours for the rescue work?

**The Honourable Shri K. C. Neogy:** (a) A copy of the programme followed in India is laid on the table. The Government of India have no information about the programme followed in Pakistan.

(b) 369 Muslim women and 323 children were recovered during the week i.e. from the 16th February to the 22nd February 1948 in the East Punjab. No official figures of the recovery of women in Pakistan have been received but the available information shows that 392 Hindu and Sikh women and 379 children were recovered in Pakistan during the week. The total number of abducted Muslim women recovered from East Punjab during the month of February was 1,342. During the same period 1,400 abducted non-Muslim women were recovered from West Punjab. This latter figure included 974 women who had been abducted from Kashmir recovered in Gujrat district and kept in the Kunjah Camp.

(c) A news item appeared in the Calcutta Press mentioning that 4 girls who had been abducted from Noakhali in October, 1946, had been recovered in West Punjab and had been sheltered in the Womens' Refugee Camp at the Frances Newton Hospital, Ferozepur. Enquiries at the latter place indicated that no such girls had been taken there. Further enquiries are being made to find out the truth of the report.

(d) and (e). The Honourable Member is referred to the reply given by the Honourable the Prime Minister to clauses (a) and (b) of Starred Question No. 115 by Giani Gurmukh Singh Musafar on the 4th February 1948.

#### *Restore Women and Children Week*

The "Restore Women and Children" week was observed from 16th to 22nd February instead of 15th to 21st as previously settled. The following broadcasts were put on the air during the week—

16th	5.30 P.M.	Extracts from Mahatma Gandhi's prayer meeting address of 7th December 1947 referring to abducted women. (Hindustani).
	8.30 P.M.	Broadcast by the Prime Minister of India. (Hindustani).
17th	8.30 P.M.	Broadcast by the Honourable Shri K. C. Neogy, Minister for Relief and Rehabilitation followed by its Hindustani translation
	8.40 P.M.	Broadcast by Dr. Rajendra Prasad. (Hindustani).
18th	8.30 P.M.	Broadcast by the Deputy Prime Minister. (Hindustani). Broadcast of the Joint Appeal by women leaders of India and Pakistan already published in the Press. (Hindustani).
19th	8.30 P.M.	Broadcast by the Honourable Rajkumari Amrit Kaur and Shrimati Rameshwari Nehru. (Hindustani).
20th	7.05 P.M.	Broadcast by Principal Niranjan Singh. Broadcast of the Joint Appeal by women leaders of India and Pakistan already published in the Press. (Hindustani).
21st	7.05 P.M.	Broadcast of Radio feature on the subject of restoration of abduction women and children.

The following points may be noted:—

1. All the above Broadcasts were relayed by Jullundur and Amritsar.
2. The texts of almost all the above broadcasts were released and were published by most of the prominent Papers.

**Shri Basanta Kumar Das:** Is it a fact that most of the women rescued in West Punjab are old women and young women are being held back?

**The Honourable Shri K. O. Neogy:** I have received allegations to that effect, but I am not in a position to give any indication about the age groups to which these recovered women belong.

گیتائی گورمکھ سنگھ مسافر : کہا اس کا کوئی اندازہ ہے کہ کل کتنی لڑکیاں ابھی اور پائی ہیں -

**Giani Gurmukh Singh Musafar:** Is there any estimate of the girls that are yet to be recovered?

**The Honourable Shri K. O. Neogy:** I am afraid it is very difficult to give an estimate of the girls that have yet to be recovered from West Pakistan.

گیتائی گورمکھ سنگھ مسافر : کہا گورنمنٹ خود بھی پتہ چلانے کی کوشش کرتی ہے -

یا جہاں سے پتہ چلتا ہے - وہیں سے لڑکیاں نکالنے کی کوشش کرتی ہے

**Giani Gurmukh Singh Musafar:** Are Government taking any initiative in finding out the whereabouts of these abducted girls, or simply tries to rescue those whose whereabouts are made known to the Government?

**The Honourable Shri K. O. Neogy:** All possible inquiries are being made and we are also getting a lot of information from friends and relations. As a matter of fact, I personally have been approached on several occasions by friends and relations of abducted women and this information is being passed on to our organisation at Lahore for necessary action.

**Shri Basanta Kumar Das:** Is it a fact that traffic in abducted women is going on in Delhi?

**The Honourable Shri K. O. Neogy:** That is also an allegation which I have heard.

گیتائی گورمکھ سنگھ مسافر : کہا آنریبل منسٹر اس بات سے واقف ہیں کہ

ریسٹ پنجاب یعنی سہاکوٹ - راولپنڈی - گجرات - جہلم اور کھنسل پور میں جو واقعات ابھی تک رونما ہوئے ہیں - گورنمنٹ نے اسے کیا انتہام کیا ہے -

**Giani Gurmukh Singh Musafar:** Is the Honourable Minister aware of the fact that in West Punjab Liaison Officers stationed at Sialkot, Rawalpindi, Gujrat, Jhelum and Campbellpur are no longer there? What are the arrangements made by the Government in this connection?

**The Honourable Shri K. O. Neogy:** That is a fact and the whole question is at present under discussion, and I would appeal to my Honourable friends not to press me for any further statement on this subject. I may state for their information that I propose to proceed to Lahore on Saturday to assess the situation there in regard to very many pending issues, which will include this one also.

**Shri Khurshed Lal:** Are any attempts being made to recover women who have been taken to tribal territory as a result of the Gujrat tragedy?

**The Honourable Shri K. O. Neogy:** That is also what we have learnt.

**Mr. Tajamal Hosana:** Will the Honourable Minister be pleased to state whether these rescued include any women and children abducted during the disturbances in Bihar and if so, what their number is?

**The Honourable Shri K. O. Neogy:** I have had no information on this particular point.

**Prof. Shibban Lal Sakseena:** Will the Honourable Minister give us the rescued women by age groups some time?

**The Honourable Shri K. O. Neogy:** I shall attempt to do so, but then it depends upon the statistics that is already available.

**Shrimati G. Durgabai:** May I know from the Honourable Minister as to how many out of these rescued women are taken back by their relations and how many are still left under the care of the Government?

**The Honourable Shri K. C. Neogy:** I should like to have notice of that question.

**Shri Upendra Nath Barman:** Have the Government made any attempt up till now to ascertain the number of abducted women and girls from East Bengal during the Noakhali and Tipperah disturbances, and if so, what is their number?

**The Honourable Shri K. C. Neogy:** I am afraid no such attempt has been made so far as I am aware.

**Shri Upendra Nath Barman:** Will the Government make an attempt now?

**The Honourable Shri K. C. Neogy:** I think it is rather too late to expect any result out of any such enquiry at the present moment.

**Seth Govinddas:** Is it not a fact that most of the women rescued have been taken away by their relations and the remaining are very few in number?

**The Honourable Shri K. C. Neogy:** I have received information to that effect. It is a very encouraging information. But I am not in a position to state whether in any case this has not happened.

**Begum Aizaz Rasul:** May I ask the Minister whether, from the experience gained the Government finds a general desire on the part of the people in Pakistan and India to return these abducted women?

**The Honourable Shri K. C. Neogy:** Well, I should not like to make a general statement. We have met with very enthusiastic co-operation in certain cases and lack of co-operation in others.

#### ASSETS OF LIBRARY OF SECRETARY OF STATE FOR INDIA AND INDIA OFFICE

**689. Shri Biswanath Das:** Will the Honourable the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was a library in London maintained by the Secretary of State for India out of Indian revenues, upto the 15th August 1947;

(b) how many copies of books, official documents and manuscripts in different languages taken from India were kept in the library;

(c) what the other assets of the India Office are and where those assets are located at present; and

(d) what steps have been taken by Government to get possession of all such assets?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** (a) Yes, Sir. Up to 1937, the India Office Library was maintained entirely out of Indian Revenues; from 1937 to 1947 the Government of India paid annually a lump sum to His Majesty's Government for the maintenance of the India Office Library.

(b) A statement showing the number of copies of printed books and manuscripts in the India Office Library is laid on the table of the House. Information about the exact number of India Office records is not available; but a note on the nature of the records is included in the statement.

(c) Apart from the Records and the Library of the India Office which contains a number of drawings, photographs, coins, textiles samples, epigraphic inscriptions, epigraphic rubbings and gramophone records, besides books and manuscripts, the other assets of the India Office consists of the building, the pictures and the East India Company's furniture. All these assets are at present located in that part of Whitehall which used to house the late India Office.

(d) The Government are sending a party of representatives to join a fact-finding committee set up by the United Kingdom Government consisting of experts representing the Government of United Kingdom, India and Pakistan to start work on surveying the 'contents' of the India Office. The committee's functions are to be the preparation of a statement of 'contents', the sources from which they came, the various claims made to the 'contents', and the various schemes suggested for their disposal. The committee has not yet started work but is likely to meet in London in April. The committee is only of a fact-finding nature and will not have anything to do with questions of policy. The idea is that after the fact-finding committees' work is finished any questions of policy which may arise for decision should be discussed at ministerial level between the Governments concerned.

### INDIA OFFICE LIBRARY

The resources of the Library fall into four classes: printed works; manuscripts; drawings and miscellaneous properties. The first three classes each divided into European and Oriental, the Oriental books and manuscripts are further classified into separate language collection.

#### Printed Books

European books are those printed in a European language, and not translated from an Oriental language. The Oriental books are books printed in an Oriental language together with translations from an Oriental language into a European language.

The figures given in the following statement represent the number of separate works whether in one volume or more, in each case collection. The larger figures are in some instances estimates only.

<b>EUROPEAN</b>		
<b>ORIENTAL—</b>		<b>63,000</b>
<b>Classical—</b>		
Arabic	5,500	
Persian	4,750	
Sanskrit & Prakrit	19,000	
Pali & (Pali-Burmese)	1,750	
Tibetan	130	
Sind	24	
Pahlavi	11	
Chinese	1,850	<b>33,005</b>
<b>MODERN INDIAN—</b>		
<b>Indo-Aryan—</b>		
Assamese	700	
Bengali	24,000	
Bhili	8	
Garhwali	48	
Gujarati	9,500	
Hindi	19,400	
Kashmiri	129	
Malthi	51	
Marathi	9,200	
Multani	81	
Nepali	454	
Oriya	4,000	
Punjabi	5,000	
Saurashtra	17	
Sindhi	2,200	
Urdu	20,000	<b>94,785</b>
<b>Iranian—</b>		
Balochi	12	
Pashto	151	
<b>Dravidian—</b>		
Takui	11	
Kannara	2,500	
Kota	4	
Kui	6	

Dravidian—*contd.*

Kurukh . . . . .	27	
Malayalam . . . . .	1,260	
Malto . . . . .	2	
Tamil . . . . .	15,500	
Telugu . . . . .	6,156	
Toda . . . . .	1	
Tulu . . . . .	24	25,485

## Munda—

Kharia . . . . .	1	
Kurku . . . . .	6	
Mundari . . . . .	46	
Santali . . . . .	136	
Savara . . . . .	12	201

## Mon-Khmer—

Khasi . . . . .	90	
Mon . . . . .	48	
Nicobarese . . . . .	1	
Wa . . . . .	3	142 129,772

## Burmese . . . . .

2,325

## Tibeto-Burman—

Abor-Miri . . . . .	8	
Bhotin . . . . .	2	
Bunan . . . . .	1	
Chin . . . . .	39	
Garo . . . . .	69	
Kabui . . . . .	1	
Kachari . . . . .	15	
Kachin . . . . .	49	
Kom-Kuki . . . . .	1	
Laho . . . . .	8	
Laisao . . . . .	2	
Lakher . . . . .	3	
Lepcha . . . . .	15	
Lisu . . . . .	3	
Lolo . . . . .	1	
Lushei . . . . .	51	
Manipuri . . . . .	26	
Mikir . . . . .	19	
Mogi . . . . .	2	
Naga languages . . . . .	89	
Newari . . . . .	1	
Thado Kuki . . . . .	3	408

## Other Oriental Languages—

Ahom . . . . .	1	
Annamite . . . . .	81	
Aranaic . . . . .	1	
Bernes dialects . . . . .	2	
Borini . . . . .	4	
Cambodian . . . . .	3	
Georgian . . . . .	1	
Hebrew . . . . .	84	
Heklo . . . . .	3	
Japanese . . . . .	129	
Karen . . . . .	192	
Khotanese . . . . .	5	
Korean . . . . .	2	
Kuchean . . . . .	2	
Loesian . . . . .	2	
Malay . . . . .	107	
Maochu . . . . .	15	
Mongol . . . . .	13	
Philippine Island . . . . .	9	
Shan . . . . .	27	
Sinense . . . . .	165	

Other Oriental languages—*contd*

Sinhalese . . . . .	175	
Myriac . . . . .	15	
Turki & Turkish . . . . .	50	1,068
	<hr/>	157,615
Oriental polyglot . . . . .	12	
	<hr/>	
European and Oriental books . . . . .		220,615

*Manuscripts*

The manuscript collection comprises documents written or inscribed on paper, palm leaves, birch bark and other materials. The Tibetan documents known as 'xylographe', which are actually printed from carved wooden block, are for convenience classed with the Tibetan manuscripts, are grouped, irrespective of provenance, in language collections according to the language in which they are written, even when translated from another language.

The figures given below refer, in general, to the number of separate works (or fragments) which may constitute a bound volume, in each collection. But complete consistency of method in enumeration has not proved possible, and in some instances, particularly in the European collection, it has been necessary to count volumes, each comprising many separate documents, instead of individual manuscripts.

EUROPEAN . . . . . 364 & 837 vols. of mas.

## ORIENTAL—

## Classical—

Arabic . . . . .	2,720	
Persian . . . . .	7,250	
Sanskrit & Prakrit . . . . .	8,300	
Pali (& Pali-Bu mese) . . . . .	385	
Tibetan (see note). . . . .		
Zend & Pahlavi . . . . .	27	
Chinese . . . . .	1	18,683
	<hr/>	plus

## MODERN INDIAN.

## Indo Aryan—

Assamese . . . . .	3	
Bengali . . . . .	27	
Hindi . . . . .	160	
Jaina (Gujarati & Marwari) . . . . .	52	
Kashmiri . . . . .	5	
Marathi . . . . .	251	
Multani . . . . .	1	
Oriya . . . . .	50	
Punjabi . . . . .	56	
Sindhi . . . . .	15	
Urdu . . . . .	269	889
	<hr/>	

## Iranian—

Pashto . . . . .	54	54
	<hr/>	

## Dravidian—

Kannero . . . . .	14	
Kurukh . . . . .	1	
Malayalam . . . . .	69	
Tamil . . . . .	12	
Telugu . . . . .	12	109 1 052
	<hr/>	

## Burmese . . . . .

49

## Other oriental languages—

Betta . . . . .	6	
Ethiopia . . . . .	4	
Javanese . . . . .	50	
Malay . . . . .	28	



STARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
Other Oriental Languages—Contd.

1879

Mo-Se	111
Siamese	21
Sinhalese	46
Syriac	9
Turki & Turkish	23 29626,080

20,444 plus  
837 vols. of  
mas.

Note.—The above totals do not include a figure for Tibetan manuscripts. In the early years of the century the Tibetan collection comprised some 850 xylographs and 120 manuscript. They have since been very greatly augmented by the deposit of the Stein collections from Central Asia, but it has not been possible, in the time available for the preparation of this report to enumerate the Stein documents with any accuracy.

*India Office Records*

1. The Records in the India Office (including temporary repositories outside its walls consist of:—

- (a) The Records of the East India Company, first as a commercial then as a territorial power, from 1600 to the abolition of the Company in 1858;
- (b) The Records of the Board of Control, established in 1784, which governed India in conjunction with the Court of Directors of the East India Company until 1858
- (c) The Records of the Secretary of State for India in Council from 1858 to 1935;
- (d) The Records of the Secretary of State for India from 1935 to 1947;
- (e) The Records of the Secretary of State for Burma from 1937 to the present time.

This report is concerned with the first four of these categories, all of which can be regarded the Archives of the India Office as it existed on 14th August, 1947.

**Shri Biswanath Das:** May I know, Sir, what becomes of our famous diamond-Kohinoor and whether it is in the assets?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** That has nothing to do with the India Office.

**Mr. Tajamul Hosain:** Arising out of part (c), may I know what are the other assets of the India Office?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** It is not an asset of the India Office.

**Mr. Tajamul Hosain:** Whose asset is it?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** Well, presumably I cannot say off-hand. The position is presumably: It belongs to the King's personalia.

**Shri H. V. Kamath:** Is there any information to show that any of the manuscripts or documents or other assets referred to by the Honourable the Prime Minister have either mysteriously disappeared or have been spirited away?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** I have heard nothing of the kind. If Mr. Kamath will give some information, we shall enquire.

**Mr. Tajamul Hosain:** Are Government aware that one of the gates of Somnath temple is in London and if the answer to my question be in the affirmative, what steps, if any, Government propose to take to get back that gate from London to India?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** I am afraid, I am not in a position to answer that question, because I do not know the facts. At the same time we should not mix up the two. We are dealing with the India Office in this question. No doubt, there are many things in the British Museum and other museums and various other places which can be considered separately as to how far we can get or not the valuable articles which had been taken away from India during the past century or more.

**Mr. Tajamul Hossain:** I submit that all the properties belonging to us Indians, which were in India during the British rule were property or assets of the India Office. Now, Sir, I ask do Government propose to make enquiries into the matter regarding the Somnath Temple gate and all other assets of the Indian now?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** I do not know. Certainly we will make enquiries about the Somnath gate as well as other matters. But there seems to be a certain vagueness or looseness about calling all these things 'assets of India Office'. I still cannot see how they could belong to us by right for various reasons.

**Dr. B. Pattabhi Sitaramayya:** May I add to the list also Baji Row's elephant which was alive till 80 years ago?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, order.

INDIA'S HIGH COMMISSIONER'S STORE PURCHASES DEPARTMENT IN ENGLAND

**690. \*Shri Biswanath Das:** Will the Honourable the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Store Purchases Department of the High Commissioner of India is still functioning in Great Britain;

(b) if so, the purpose, work and utility of the said department at present;

(c) whether Government have considered the need of having such activities in India and not in Great Britain;

(d) if so, when Government propose to wind up that department in Great Britain; and

(e) the number of officials in the Department and the cost incurred by way of pay on such officials employed in Great Britain as well as in the branches of the Department, if any, in the continent?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** (a) Yes, Sir. The Store Purchases Department referred to by the Honourable Member is known as the India Store Department.

(b) The India Store Department is to arrange for purchase of stores for Government which are not available in India; inspection of such stores during manufacture and before shipment; and engagement of freight. Its operations extend over the whole of Europe.

I place on the table of the House a statement (No. 1) showing the approximate value of stores purchased by the India Store Department during the past few years.

(c) In India we have already established as a continuance of war-time arrangements, a Centralised procurement organisation, that of the Director General of Industry and Supply under the Ministry of Industry and Supply. This organisation has replaced the old Indian Stores Department and the Contracts Directorate, and is responsible for the supply of stores to all Government Departments, etc., by arranging the procurement of stores from India or from abroad, according to the nature and availability of stores.

In view of the world shortage of certain key stores and unwillingness on the part of many manufacturers' agents in this country to quote against our invitations to tender on reasonable terms, shipping facilities, regulation of import licences and control of foreign exchange it is felt that until there is a change for the better in the present day sellers' market, certain purchases can be made more expeditiously through the India Store Department in the United Kingdom. So far as the purchase activities of the India Store Department are concerned, they can be considerably reduced when normal conditions are restored. We can then arrange for our requirements in full either from indigenous sources or through the manufacturers' agents in this country.

under the rupee tender system. Until such a stage is reached, and this presupposes extensive industrialisation of the country, we need the organisation of the India Store Department to watch our interests in the United Kingdom on the spot.

(d) In view of the position explained above, and judging from the volume of work done by the India Store Department, it will be realised that the India Store Department is fulfilling a real need and the question of winding up the organisation does not arise at present.

(e) The present strength of the India Store Department (including subordinate staff) is 477. A sum of Rs. 18,68,000 was provided by way of salaries to the staff for the 7½ months period 15th August 1947 to 31st March 1948 and Rs. 31,68,000 has been provided for the full year 1948-49. The annual cost has thus been reduced by about Rs. 166,000. I place on the table of the House two statements (Nos. II and III) showing (a) details of staff and (b) cost incurred by way of pay of establishment on such officials.

The Department works under the control of the Industry and Supply Ministry. It is being progressively Indianised in personnel and the key posts are held by Indian officers.

There are no branches of the India Store Department in the continent of Europe, but its operations in Europe are controlled from its office in Blackpool.

## STATEMENT I

Approximate value of stores purchased by the India Store Department during the past few years. (Reference part (b) of reply to Question No. 690).

Year	Value in Lakhs of Rs.
1941-42	800
1942-43	1300
1943-44	933
1944-45	1366
1945-46	2730
1946-47	1730

*partition period*

15th August to 31st December 1947	1133*
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\*1114 lakhs for India.  
19 lakhs for Pakistan.

## STATEMENT II

List of Sanctioned Posts in India stores Department under the High Commissioner for India and London.

Designation of post	As on 1st December 1947 Sanctioned by		High Commr. Temporary
	Government of India Permanent	Temporary	
Head of Department (Director General)	..	..	
Officer on Special duty	..	1	
Deputy Head of Department (Dy. Director General)	1	..	
Controllers	3	1	
Principal/Executive Officers	5	4	
Higher Executive Officers	13	5	
Executive Officers	24	24	
Higher Clerical Officers	8	..	
Clerical Officers	67	..	
Superintendent of Typists	1	..	
Short-hand Typists and Typists	16	32	
Messengers	18	2	
Subordinate Grades	45	34	1
Clerks	..	87	13
Deputy Office Keepers	..	..	1

*Technical Staff*

Director of Inspection . . . . .	1	..	
Dy. Director of Inspection . . . . .	1	..	
Other Technical Staff . . . . .	32	18	
Examiner of Surgical Instruments . . . . .	..	1	
Examiner of Medical Stores . . . . .	..	1	
<i>Others</i>			
Colliery Panel Officer . . . . .	..	..	
Liaison Officer Armament Production . . . . .	..	..	
Shipping Surveyor . . . . .	..	1	
Assistant Electrical Engineer . . . . .	..	..	1
Officer on Special Duty . . . . .	..	1	
Total . . . . .	236 +	212 +	29 = 477

Nars. - \*Sanctioned by the High Commissioner for India in London under his own power.

## STATEMENT III

*India Store Department, London*

Budget estimate for	
1947-48 (15/8/47 to 31/3/48)	1948-49 (1/4/48 to 31/3/49).
Rs.	Rs.
Salaries . . . . .	18,68,000 21,68,000
Wages of Artificers, Labourers, etc. . . . .	53,000 80,000
Professional inspection of stores . . . . .	5,29,000 9,24,000
Office contingencies, etc. . . . .	58,000 1,100

**Shri H. V. Kamath:** Arising out of answer to part (e), may I ask how many of these 477 officials are Indians and how many foreigners?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** I suggest that Mr. Kamath reads Statement II placed on the table.

**Prof. N. G. Ranga:** Is the head of the India Store Department an Indian?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** Yes, Sir.

**Shri H. V. Kamath:** Are the majority Indians?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, order.

#### NON-PAYMENT OF RENTS BY PAKISTAN GOVERNMENT OF BUILDINGS REQUISITIONED BY THE LATE PUNJAB GOVERNMENT

**601. \*Giani Gurmukh Singh Musafar:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Relief and Rehabilitation be pleased to state whether Government are aware that the Government of Pakistan do not propose to pay rents for the buildings which the Government of Punjab took on rent prior to 15th August, 1947?

(b) If so, what steps do Government propose to take to see that rent is paid to such land-lords whose buildings are now under the control of the Government of West Punjab?

**The Honourable Shri K. G. Neogy:** (a) and (b). Government are not aware that the Government of Pakistan do not propose to pay rents for buildings in Pakistan which Government of Punjab took on rent prior to the 15th August, 1947. I presume that in such cases the rent will be realized by the Custodian of Evacuee Property as under Section 4 of the West Punjab Ordinance No. VII of 1947, all tenants of evacuee property of which control has been taken over by the Custodian shall be deemed to be holding it on his behalf.

**REGISTRATION AND EMPLOYMENT OF EX-SERVICEMEN THROUGH EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES DURING PAST TWO YEARS**

**692. \*Shri V. C. Kesava Rao:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Labour be pleased to state the total number of ex-servicemen registered for employment in the various Employment Exchanges during the years 1946-47 and 1947-48 province-wise?

(b) How many of them were provided with jobs?

(c) What is the number of refugees registered for employment after the 15th August, 1947?

(d) How many of them have been provided with jobs?

**The Honourable Shri Jagjivan Ram:** (a) and (b). It is presumed that the Honourable Member desires to know the registration and placing figures for the financial years 1946-47 and 1947-48. On this presumption, the latest available figures are given in a statement which is laid on the table.

(c) The number of refugees registered for employment upto 15th January 1948 was 76,068.

(d) The number of refugees known to have been placed in employment by Employment Exchanges upto 15th January 1948 was 11,769.

**STATEMENT**

*Province-wise Analysis of number of ex-Service personnel registered and placed by the Employment Exchanges*

**EX-SERVICE PERSONNEL ONLY**

Province	1946-47 (April 1946—March 1947)		1947-48 (part year) (April 1947—Dec. 1947)	
	Registrations	Placings	Registrations	Placings
1	2	3	4	5
Ajmer . . . . .	5,821	984	1,226	635
Assam . . . . .	4,632	446	2,994	616
Beluchistan . . . . .	1,358	415	506	328
Bengal . . . . .	45,854	6,745	20,045	5,056
Bihar . . . . .	27,533	4,742	11,130	4,173
Bombay . . . . .	32,224	7,798	14,609	7,171
O. P. & Berar . . . . .	11,920	2,909	4,891	2,279
Delhi . . . . .	8,747	1,792	5,528	1,588
Madras . . . . .	1,71,651	29,808	2,623	18,682
N. W. F. P. . . . .	25,747	5,355	6,857	3,882
Orissa . . . . .	3,264	196	2,016	259
Panjab . . . . .	1,13,693	17,759	48,266	18,032
Sindh . . . . .	6,430	2,028	2,782	1,141
United Provinces . . . . .	2,130	12,524	37,399	12,965
All India Total . . . . .	56,22,094	93,511	2,10,972	71,803

**Shri V. C. Kesava Rao:** May I know, Sir, whether anybody other than refugees and ex-servicemen are registered in the employment exchanges?

**The Honourable Shri Jagjivan Ram:** In the case of refugees there is no question of their being ex-servicemen.

**Prof. N. G. Ranga:** What other efforts are being made to provide employment for the other 60,000 and odd men who are yet to be employed?

**The Honourable Shri Jagjivan Ram:** Efforts are being made by the Ministry of Relief and Rehabilitation to find employment for them and also to settle them in life.

**Begum Ahsan Razvi:** May I know, Sir, whether these employment exchanges are centrally administered or whether they are under the Provincial Governments?

**The Honourable Shri Jagjivan Ram:** At present they are administered centrally; the Provincial Governments also contribute to the cost of their administration and are closely associated with it.

#### NON-MUSLIM REFUGEE CAMP AT ALIBEG (MIRPUR) UNDER KASHMIR RAIDERS CONTROL

**603. \*Giani Gurmukh Singh Musafar:** (a) Will the Honourable the Prime Minister be pleased to state whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the fact that the non-Muslim refugee camp at Alibeg (Mirpur) is under the control of the Kashmir raiders and whether Government have received any report regarding the same?

(b) If so, what is the number of refugees in that camp?

(c) Are Government aware:

(i) that they are housed in a roofless deserted Gurdwara;

(ii) that all their beddings have been taken away from them;

(iii) that only three chataks of cereals per head per day are supplied to them;

(iv) that they have been deprived of water facilities; and

(v) that they have been living under such conditions for the last three months?

(d) Have Government received any information about the refugees who died for want of clothing and food in this camp?

(e) Have Government evolved any plan to save these refugees? If so, what is it?

(f) Did any society called the 'Friends Service Unit' offer its services to the Government of India for this purpose? If so, did Government accept it?

(g) On what date was this offer accepted?

(h) Do Government propose to lay on the table of the House a statement showing the result of the efforts made by the society referred to in part (f) above for saving these refugees?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** (a) to (h). Government have received reports from time to time about Alibeg camp where a large number of non-Muslim refugees from Jammu Province, and more specially Mirpur, were collected. They have had no means of getting direct information about this camp except from reports received through the International Red Cross and the Friends Service Unit. It appears that there were recently about 2000 refugees in this camp. Their housing conditions were bad, food was inadequate and clothing and bedding were often lacking. A considerable number of deaths, chiefly due to exposure and cold, have also been reported.

Government have been making every effort to get these refugees evacuated and brought to India via Pakistan. Their efforts have thus far been unsuccessful. But it is hoped that in the near future the refugees in Alibeg Camp might be brought to Lahore and from there to India.

#### CENTRAL WATER POWER IRRIGATION AND NAVIGATION COMMISSION

**604. \*Shri B. B. Dwivedi:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Works, Mines and Power be pleased to state as to when the Central Water Power, Irrigation and Navigation Commission was started? What is the strength of the staff and what is their monthly pay-bill?

(b) What are the sections in the Department and what are the qualifications of the chief men of those sections?

(c) How many of them have the necessary training and experience in building dams? Where were they trained and where did they get their experience?

(d) What is the nature of research carried on in the Research Branch of the Department? How many Officers are working in that Research Department? What are the special qualifications of those Officers?

(e) Are Government aware that 17 junior posts and 20 senior posts in that Department were advertised on 22nd December 1947 and 14th February 1948 respectively in the local papers? If so, in how many provincial papers were these advertisements given?

(f) Are Government aware that in anticipation of these advertisements, the Head of the Research Department requisitioned hands from those already working in the Government of Punjab? If so, why was it done?

(g) Has the attention of Government been drawn to the fact that in the latter advertisement dated 14th February 1948 from that Department, an M.Sc. Class III is mentioned as eligible for a Class I post and that the age limit is also relaxed?

(h) Why has this relaxation of qualifications been made?

(i) How many men have been sent abroad for study from this Department? What are their qualifications and who made the selection?

**The Honourable Shri H. V. Gadgil:** (a) The Central Waterways, Irrigation and Navigation Commission was set up on the 5th April 1945 vide Labour Department's Resolution No. DW.101(2), dated the 5th April 1945.

The present strength of the staff is:

I.S.E. and Class I Officers—26.

Class II Officers—17.

Class III Officers—100.

Class IV Officers—73.

The monthly pay-bill is Rs. 76,000.

(b) (i) There are seven sections in the Commission, namely: Waterways Directorate, Irrigation Directorate, Navigation Directorate, Hydrology Directorate, Designs Directorate, Statistical and Publication Directorate, and Central Waterways, Irrigation and Navigation Research Station.

(ii) Four fully qualified and well experienced engineers, who have held responsible charge equivalent to that of officers of the I.S.E. with a service of about 20 years were appointed to these posts.

(c) (i) Three out of four have the necessary training and experience of building barrages which are similar to dams and the fourth is a specialist in Navigation.

(ii) One is a B.Sc. (Eng.) (Glasgow) with 25½ years experience in the I.S.E. drawn from Bengal, second one is a Civil Engineer from Koorkee with 25 years experience in the I.S.E. drawn from Punjab Irrigation, while the third one is a B.Sc. (London) with 16 years experience in the I.S.E. drawn from the Sind Irrigation.

(d) Research carried out in the Research Station covers the following aspects:

Problems relating to river characteristics, behaviour and training, design of canals and canal works and navigational works. These problems generally comprise design, construction, operation and testing of scale models of hydraulic

structures and machinery and of masonry and earthen dams, embankments, spillways, outlet works, barrages, syphons, aqueducts, regulators, navigation locks, etc.

The following officers are working at the Research Station:

- (1) Mr. K. K. Framji, M.B.E., B.A. (Bombay), B.Sc. (London), A.K.C. (London), I.S.E., Director, Research Station, Poona;
- (2) Rao Bahadur D. V. Joglekar, B.E., B.S.E., Deputy Director, Research Station, Poona;
- (3) Mr. S. T. Ghotankar, M.Sc. (Bombay), Assistant Research Officer; and
- (4) Mr. C. V. Gole, B.E. (Bombay), Assistant Research Officer.

(e) Yes. As regards the latter part of the question the junior posts were advertised by the Central Waterpower Irrigation and Navigation Commission in the following 12 Provincial newspapers: *The Tribune*, Simla, *Amrit Basar Patrika*, Calcutta, *Bombay Chronicle*, Bombay, *Times of India*, Bombay, *Hindu*, Madras, *Madras Mail*, Madras, *Star of India*, Calcutta, *The Leader*, Allahabad, *The Pioneer*, Lucknow, *The Hitavada*, Nagpur, *The Indian Nation*, Patna, *The New Orissa*, Orissa, *Hindustan Times*, New Delhi, and *Statesman*, New Delhi.

The senior posts were advertised by the Federal Public Service Commission.

(f) So far as the Government are aware, there has been no such case.

(g) Only in the case of candidates with specialised experience, lower class M.Sc. was mentioned as eligible for Class I post. The age limit was only to be relaxed in the case of Government servants.

(h) This relaxation was intended to consider appointment of candidates with specialised experience.

(i) Nil. The latter part of the question does not arise.

**Shri B. B. Diwakar:** Sir, I feel, it would have been better if a statement had been laid on the table of the House; it would have saved some time of the House. Now, arising out of answer to part (c) the Honourable Minister said that the engineers have experience of construction of barrages. Does the Honourable Minister think that experience in building of dams is not necessary?

**The Honourable Shri N. V. Gadgil:** It is necessary, if men with that experience are available. I may inform the House, Sir, that high dam constructions are very unusual and the two officers who have considerable experience in it belong to the Madras Government, which is unwilling to part with their services.

**Shri K. Hanumanthaiya:** Is the Honourable Minister aware that such dams have been built and are being built in Mysore and there are engineers who have experience of their construction?

**The Honourable Shri N. V. Gadgil:** I am quite aware of it.

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** May I ask the Honourable Minister—arising out of his answer to part (g)—whether he has satisfied himself that the advertisement has not been so framed as to fit in a particular candidates?

**The Honourable Shri N. V. Gadgil:** Yes.

**Shri T. A. Ramalingam Chettiar:** Sir, there are some retired men who have got experience of dam construction; could their services not be utilised in this connection?

**The Honourable Shri N. V. Gadgil:** It is being done.

**Prof. N. G. Ranga:** Sir, is the Commission maintaining a list of names of experienced engineers, whether they may be in service or retired, in order that they may be consulted from time to time?



**The Honourable Shri N. V. Gadgil:** That is being done, Sir. As a matter of fact, a committee consisting of experts has been appointed in which Sir M. Visveswarayya has been included.

**Shri Khurshed Lal:** May I know why the advertisement was not inserted in the United Provinces Papers, like the *National Herald*, the *Pioneer* and the *Leader*?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, order.

**Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar:** Is it not a fact, Sir, that so far as barrages are concerned, the tallest or the highest barrage is only 18 feet, whereas dams go up to a height of 700 feet, with the result that experience of barrage construction is not at all useful in the construction of big dams?

**The Honourable Shri N. V. Gadgil:** That is a matter of opinion, Sir.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, order; we are entering into an argument.

**Shri Mohan Lal Saksena:** Is it not a fact that some experienced engineers of Madras have refused to join the C.W.I.N.C., because the person who is in charge of that organisation is inferior to them from the point of view of experience and seniority in service?

**The Honourable Shri N. V. Gadgil:** That is cent. per cent. incorrect.

**Pandit Lakshmi Kanta Maitra:** May I know from the Honourable Minister whether there are any officers in this organisation who were connected with the construction of the Sukkur Barrage?

**The Honourable Shri N. V. Gadgil:** I require notice of that particular question, Sir.

**Shri R. B. Diwakar:** Is the Kosi Dam that is going to be constructed 800 feet in height?

**The Honourable Shri N. V. Gadgil:** I cannot say exactly, but it is a high dam.

**Shri R. B. Diwakar:** Arising out of parts (h) and (i), were the relaxations mentioned in the advertisements to suit particular persons?

**The Honourable Shri N. V. Gadgil:** No, Sir. It is the normal rule that for people already employed under Government relaxation follows.

**Shri R. B. Diwakar:** Why should it be mentioned at all in the advertisement?

**The Honourable Shri N. V. Gadgil:** It is only to cover such cases.

**Shri Mohan Lal Saksena:** Sir, I am prepared to accept the statement of the Honourable Minister that my information is one hundred per cent. wrong. But will the Honourable Minister inquire once again and find out whether C.W.I.N.C. has not become a clique to deliberately keep out qualified persons?

**The Honourable Shri N. V. Gadgil:** I protest against it. The suppressed opinion which has been again and again whispered is 'that this is full of Punjabis. I will give the facts and figures and leave the House to draw its own conclusions. In the I.S.E. there are 111 people of whom 44 are from the Punjab. In this organisation of C.W.I.N.C. there are 73 gazetted posts of which only 12 are held by Punjabis.

**Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar:** Will the Honourable Minister try to explore the possibility of getting engineers either from Mysore or from Hyderabad where similar dams of a height of 450 feet have been constructed?

**The Honourable Shri N. V. Gadgil:** I am obliged for this useful suggestion.

**RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF CENTRAL WATER POWER, IRRIGATION AND NAVIGATION  
COMMISSION AT POONA**

**695. Shri R. B. Diwakar:** Will the Honourable Minister of Works, Mines and Power be pleased to state whether there is a Research Institute of the Central Water Power, Irrigation and Navigation Commission at Poona? Are Government contemplating of starting one in Delhi? If so, why?

**The Honourable Shri N. V. Gadgil:** The Government of India maintain a Research Institute at Khadakvasla near Poona called the Central Waterways Irrigation and Navigation Research Station. Till May 1947 this institute was known as the Indian Waterways Experiment Station. To cope with the increased demand for research in Waterways, Irrigation and Navigation as a result of schemes for development of the rivers of the country, the Indian Waterways Experiment Station, Poona, was reorganised and expanded in May 1947 into the Central Waterways Irrigation and Navigation Research Station. The reorganised station will be mainly located near Poona but such parts of it as could not be located in Poona will be located near Okhla near Delhi.

**Shri E. B. Diwakar:** Are there any research stations also at Mahanadi and Kori?

**The Honourable Shri N. V. Gadgil:** No, Sir.

**Shri Biswanath Das:** May I know if the Orissa Government were contributing to the Poona research station to carry on river control research for them?

**The Honourable Shri N. V. Gadgil:** All problems referred by the provincial Governments are studied in this research station, and mostly the provincial Governments contribute.

**Pandit Lakshmi Kanta Maitra:** Is there a particular section for river training in the Poona research station?

**The Honourable Shri N. V. Gadgil:** Yes, Sir, there is one.

**Pandit Lakshmi Kanta Maitra:** What is the size of that section?

**Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar:** May I know why some sections cannot be located at Poona? Is it due to want of space or want of any other conveniences?

**The Honourable Shri N. V. Gadgil:** It is due to both.

**Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar:** Has it been ascertained what those sections are which are sought to be located at Delhi and whether their location at Delhi would interfere with other research work?

**The Honourable Shri N. V. Gadgil:** I have already stated that one limiting factor in the research station at Khadakvasla is want of ample space, and there may be certain sections which cannot be usefully pushed into the central station at Poona; they may be pushed here near about Okhla.

**Shri E. B. Diwakar:** Are we to understand that Poona is the central station and that other stations like those at Delhi or Okhla are branch stations?

**The Honourable Shri N. V. Gadgil:** That is obvious from the reply I have given.

**Shri K. Santhanam:** May I know the distance of Poona from the nearest great river?

**The Honourable Shri N. V. Gadgil:** It is just close to the river called Mutha. The confluence is only a few miles down below.

#### TECHNICAL PERSONNEL BOARD TO EXAMINE FOREIGNERS IN INDIAN EMBASSIES

636. **\*Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Commerce be pleased to state if there is any proposal for the establishment of a Technical Personnel Board to examine the technical qualifications of foreigners before they are granted visas by the Indian Embassies abroad?

(b) Are Government aware that most of the independent nations have such Boards?

(c) Have Government any record of foreigners employed by Indian Companies and individuals?

(d) What is the number of foreign refugees who have been so employed?

**The Honourable Mr. C. H. Bhabha:** (a) to (e). The question should have been addressed to the Honourable Minister of Home Affairs and has been transferred to his list.

**PROGRESS OF FACT FINDING DEPARTMENT OF RELIEF AND REHABILITATION MINISTRY**

**697. \*Giani Gurmukh Singh Musafar:** Will the Honourable Minister of Relief and Rehabilitation be pleased to state the progress so far made by the Fact Finding Department of the Ministry of Relief and Rehabilitation and the expenditure so far incurred thereon?

**The Honourable Shri K. C. Neogy:** The Fact Finding Organisation was established in October, 1947, with office at Delhi and three branch offices in the East Punjab. It has examined a large number of persons and recorded their statements on incidents which occurred in Pakistan just before and during evacuation of non-Muslims. Recently, a Fact Finding Officer has been appointed at Bombay with Assistants at Ajmer and Marwar. They will record events in Sind. The East Punjab High Court Bar Association has offered to collect further material, and this offer will be utilized. It is now proposed that the Organisation should be placed under a High Court Judge.

The Fact Finding Organisation has, so far, examined 5627 refugees and prepared accounts of a large number of incidents.

The expenditure incurred on the Organisation upto the 29th February, 1948, was Rs. 32,459.

**Pandit Lakshmi Kanta Maitra:** Has any officer been posted in Calcutta to investigate into incidents there in connection with the 'Direct Action' of 1946 and thereafter?

**The Honourable Shri K. C. Neogy:** No, Sir.

**Pandit Lakshmi Kanta Maitra:** Do Government propose to institute a branch of this organisation in Calcutta in view of the steady influx of people from East Bengal to West Bengal?

**The Honourable Shri K. C. Neogy:** The question will be considered.

**Pandit Lakshmi Kanta Maitra:** May I know whether Government's attention has been drawn to the alarming condition that has developed in Eastern Pakistan. In view of that will the Honourable Minister immediately address himself to the necessity of starting a branch there in Calcutta so as to collect data relevant to the exodus?

**The Honourable Shri K. C. Neogy:** As I said, the matter will be duly considered.

**Prof. Shibban Lal Saxena:** When do Government expect to publish the report of this Fact-finding Committee?

**The Honourable Shri K. C. Neogy:** I am hoping that it will be possible to complete the work of this organisation in the next three or four months.

**Pandit Lakshmi Kanta Maitra:** May I also ask if Government are going to widen the terms of reference of this Committee so that it might go into the whole political background before the transfer of power?

**The Honourable Shri K. C. Neogy:** That is a proposal that has been made by certain Honourable Members of this House and it is receiving serious consideration.

**ALLOTMENT OF VACANT Tiffin Rooms in North and South Blocks of Imperial Secretariat, New Delhi**

**698. \*Giani Gurmukh Singh Musafar:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Works, Mines and Power be pleased to state whether Government are aware that the tiffin rooms in the North and South Blocks of the Imperial Secretariat

buildings (New Delhi) previously run by Muslims are lying vacant since September, 1947?

(b) Have any refugees applied for the allotment of those tiffin rooms? If so, when were their applications received?

(c) Have any suggestions been made by the Delhi Provincial Congress Committee and All India Congress Committee, in this connection to Government?

(d) If so, what action has been taken, so far, in the light of the suggestions made?

(e) If the answer to part (d) above be in the negative, when do Government propose to make these allotments?

**The Honourable Shri N. V. Gadgil:** (a) Yes; some are still lying vacant.

(b) Some applications have been received from refugees during the period 14th October, 1947 to 2nd March 1948.

(c) No.

(d) Does not arise

(e) The allotment will be made as soon as the general principle of allocation which is at present under examination is settled.

#### **EAST PAKISTAN ENCROACHMENT ON INDIAN TERRITORY IN ASSAM**

**699. \*Shri Rohini Kumar Chaudhuri:** (a) Will the Honourable the Prime Minister be pleased to state whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the Press Note issued by the Government of Assam and published in the *Shillong Times* from Shillong dated the 17th February, 1948, under the Caption "Assam Government's Rejoinder to East Bengal's Claims"?

(b) Is it a fact that the Government of Assam despatched a small rail force to protect the B. O. C. Oil Test point and that this rail force was overpowered by the superior forces of the Government of Pakistan and was virtually made to withdraw without orders?

(c) Is it a fact that the Government of East Bengal, which originally claimed, upto the end of January, 1947, only the western boundary of Patlaria Reserve, have, after driving out the Assam Rail Force, occupied the entire reserve and now claim it as a part of their dominion?

(d) What is the present position and what steps are being taken by the Government of India to remove the said encroachment and to protect the area from any such aggression in future?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A small rail force sent protest the B.O.C. oil test point within the Reserve was virtually cut off by armed forces sent by the East Bengal Government and had to withdraw.

(c) The East Bengal Government which first disputed the Assam Government's possession of a small area of the Reserve on the western side extended their claim about the end of January to the entire Forest Reserve. It is not a fact that the entire Reserve has been occupied by East Bengal.

(d) We are discussing the matter with the Pakistan Government and both Governments have agreed that all armed forces should be withdrawn five miles beyond the periphery of the Forest Reserve, and that the boundary should be determined by a Joint Commission consisting of the representatives of India and Pakistan. In the meantime I am assured by the Prime Minister of Pakistan that his Government fully appreciate the need for avoiding provocative action and that stringent orders to that effect have already been issued by the Government of East Bengal.

**Shri Rohini Kumar Chaudhuri:** May I know under whose control the rail force is? Is it under the Government of India or under the Government of Assam?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** I am not quite sure, but it is probably the provincial Government.

**Pandit Lakshmi Kanta Maitra:** Under whose authority is the Reserve at present?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** This Forest Reserve is more or less an uninhabited locality; it is a forest with some Forest Rangers, etc. The only point which is partly inhabited is a small point where the B.O.C. people were exploring for oil. At the present moment the forces have been withdrawn. Exactly what authority is functioning in that forest it is difficult to say because normally there is no authority needed for a forest.

**Pandit Lakshmi Kanta Maitra:** At the moment it is No Man's land!

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** I cannot describe what it is. It is difficult for me to say exactly what is happening in the forest.

**Shri B. P. Jhunjhunwala:** Arising out of the answer, may I know when is the Boundary Commission to be appointed?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** The names have been selected and we have been informed of the names recommended by the Pakistan Government or nominated by them. Among our representatives is an Honourable Member of this House.

**Pandit Lakshmi Kanta Maitra:** Are the Directors of Land Records of both the Governments associated with this Commission?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** There is to be one representative each and advisers. It is open to Government to have any adviser, including a Director of Land Records.

**Shri Arun Chandra Guha:** Is it a fact that the East Bengal Government is realizing taxes and forest dues from that area?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** I doubt if there is anything in the nature of a tax in the forest. But I cannot say whether some kind of due might not have been realized.

**Pandit Lakshmi Kanta Maitra:** Has the attention of the Government been drawn to the allegation that a vast field of forest land has been destroyed by the intruders who occupied it by the removal of valuable trees and timber?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** I do not know anything about this.

#### DEMAND OF COMMUNAL REPRESENTATION BY INDIANS IN EAST AFRICAN BRITISH COLONIES

**700. \*Shri Biswanath Das:** Will the Honourable the Prime Minister be pleased to state whether Indian in East African British colonies and dependencies have asked for communal representation in the Legislatures and local bodies?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** For some time past a section of the Indian Muslims in Kenya has been demanding separate electorates and reservation of seats in the Legislative Council and Municipal Councils and Boards.

**Seth Govinddas:** Is not it a fact that those representations which some of the Muslims made to the Colonial Office with respect to the reservation of seats has been acceded to and now out of the five Indian members of the Kenya Legislative Council, two seats have been reserved for Muslims?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** Yes, that is a fact, with this addition that the electorate is in a way a joint electorate.

**Shri Biswanath Das:** May I know whether there is any truth in the assertion that this cry for communal representation has come in after the retired British section of the I.C.S. have chosen to serve in these East African Colonies?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** I do not know that.

**Seth Govinddas:** Is not it a fact that some of the Muslims in East Africa were against this reservation of seats in the Kenya Legislative Council?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** I presume so.

**Seth Govinddas:** Did the Government receive any representation from the Muslims of Kenya saying that this reservation should not be made?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** I cannot answer that question without an enquiry.

**Mr. Tajamul Hosain:** Since when has this communal representation been given effect to in Kenya?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** Just now. Just a short while ago a draft Ordinance has been published providing for the reservation of two seats for the Muslims out of five Indian seats. Two of these seats will be reserved for two double-member constituencies and the voting will be joint.

**Shri Biswanath Das:** May I know the action taken by Government in bringing home to the people living in these East African colonies that such a course of action will be detrimental to their future in those colonies, and if so, how far has it been successful?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** The Honourable Member has a supreme faith in logic prevailing and in people understanding anything from the right point of view as he conceives it. Government can take no action in this matter except to convey their views to both the Colonial Office and to the other people concerned.

**Seth Govinddas:** Did the Government of India express their views against the reservation of seats to the Colonial Office?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** In regard to this matter the Government of India has been opposing and protesting against many things which have happened in East Africa. I believe that the Government of India has also said something on this subject. But I am not quite sure, when this matter came up recently, whether we had the opportunity to say much, because it came up rather suddenly in the end.

#### REHABILITATION OF IMMIGRANTS FROM EAST BENGAL INTO INDIA

**701. \*Shri Arun Chandra Guha:** Will the Honourable Minister of Relief and Rehabilitation be pleased to state:

(a) the number of non-Muslim immigrants who came into West Bengal, Assam and other parts of the Union of India from East Bengal;

(b) the proportion of urban and rural people among these immigrants; and

(c) whether any arrangements for the relief and rehabilitation of these men have been made by the Government of India or by any local Government and if so, what arrangements?

**The Honourable Shri K. C. Neogy:** (a) No tally has been kept of the refugees from East Bengal who have come to West Bengal, but it is estimated by the West Bengal Government that their number is about 10 lacs. No estimate of the number of non-Muslim refugees from East Bengal who have gone to Assam or other parts of the Indian Union is available.

(b) No survey has been made so far.

(c) The homeless destitute refugees are admitted to Government relief centres. Other destitute refugees are given free foodgrains and clothing. Building materials are being supplied to some others at cost price.

These arrangements have been made by the West Bengal Government. The matter is under discussion with the Provincial Government.

**Shri Arun Chandra Guha:** Is the Government ready to take up the matter with the Assam Government so that they can get some idea of the number that might have gone to Assam?

**The Honourable Shri K. C. Neogy:** We are in communication with the Assam Government.

**Shri Rohini Kumar Chaudhuri:** Is it a fact that the Government of Assam has already been considering the appointment of a Refugee Officer there?

**The Honourable Shri K. C. Neogy:** I am prepared to accept that information from my Honourable friend. But I have no information myself.

**Prof. Shibban Lal Saksena:** Will the Honourable Minister try to collect statistics of those persons who have come from East Bengal to West Bengal and gone to Assam?

**The Honourable Shri K. C. Neogy:** It will necessarily have to be done by the Government of Assam.

**Shri Arun Chandra Guha:** Will the Honourable Minister be in a position to state what number might have gone to Cooch Behar and Tripura State?

**The Honourable Shri K. C. Neogy:** We have no information.

**Prof. Shibban Lal Saksena:** Will the Honourable Minister try to get figures from the West Bengal and Assam Governments of the refugees from East Bengal?

**The Honourable Shri K. C. Neogy:** As a matter of fact we did receive a reply from the Assam Government to the effect that they themselves have no information of the numbers of such people who have gone over to Assam.

**Pandit Lakshmi Kanta Maitra:** Is the Honourable Minister aware that since the receipt of the last report, there has been a further deterioration in the situation and consequent increase of immigrants to West Bengal, and has he asked the West Bengal Government to report from time to time about the numbers that had gone there?

**The Honourable Shri K. C. Neogy:** I do not know about that but I definitely remember to have seen a statement made by the Premier of Bengal, just three or four days back, in the course of which he mentioned ten lacs as the figure.

**Pandit Lakshmi Kanta Maitra:** Is the Honourable Minister aware that lots of people from Eastern Pakistan have tried to take shelter in the States of Tripura and Cooch Behar? Is the Honourable Minister aware of their number, and if not will he enquire from the Governments concerned as to what is the number of people who have migrated there?

**The Honourable Shri K. C. Neogy:** I will make enquiries.

**Shri Arun Chandra Guha:** Will the Honourable Minister enquire from those two States if they have taken any measures for relief of those who have gone there?

**The Honourable Shri K. O. Neogy:** Yes, I will.

**ALLOWANCES AND SALARIES OF INDIA'S DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATIVES ABROAD**

**702. \*Shri Lakshminarayan Sahu:** Will the Honourable the Prime Minister be pleased to lay on the table of the House a statement showing the salaries, allowances and other emoluments of India's diplomatic representatives abroad and the expenditure incurred as on the 31st December 1947 on their residential offices, equipment and furnishing, etc.

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** A statement showing salaries, allowances and other emoluments of India's diplomatic representatives abroad is placed on the table of the House. Information regarding the exact expenditure incurred as on the 31st December 1947 on their residences, offices, equipment and furnishing etc. is not readily available.

**STATEMENT**

*Showing salaries, allowances and other emoluments of India's diplomatic representatives abroad*

S. No.	Name of the country and designation	Pay	Allowances
1	2	3	4
		Ra.	
1	Ambassador to the United States of America.	3,500 p.m.	Frais de Representation—Ra. 5,200 p.m. Free furnished house. Free car and chauffeur at Government expense. Free heating of the house.
2	Ambassador to China	4,500 p.m.	Free furnished house. Motor car and chauffeur at Government expense. Free service in the house.
3	Ambassador to U.S.S.R.	3,50 p.m.	Frais de Representation—temporarily Ra. 9,000 p.m. Free furnished house and free heating of the house. A car and chauffeur at Government expense.
4	Ambassador to Iran	3,000 p.m.	Frais de Representation—Ra. 2,000 p.m. Free furnished house. A car at Government expense.
	Ambassador to Nepal	2,250 p.m.	Frais de Representation—Ra. 750 p.m. Free furnished house. A car with a chauffeur and a cleaner at Government expense the Ambassador bearing the running expenses.
6	Head of the Indian Liaison Mission in Tokyo and Political Representative of India with Supreme Commander Allied Powers, with personal rank of Ambassador.	3,500 p.m.	Representation allowance—Ra. 2,000 p.m. Free car with chauffeur. Free accommodation and free ration.
7	Charge d'Affaires, Indian Legation, Bangkok.	1,100 p.m.	Foreign allowance—Ra. 917 p.m. Free furnished accommodation Free car.
8	Ambassador in Burma	2,750 p.m.	Sumptuary allowance—Ra. 750. Car allowance Ra. 250 car provided at Government cost. House rent allowance excess 10% of pay. Dearness allowance Ra. 300.



1	2	3	4
9	High Commissioner in Canada .	2,250 p.m. (fixed).	Representation allowance \$10,000 p.a. Free car and Chauffeur maintenance charges to be borne by the High Commissioner. House rent allowance of \$650 p.m. with effect from the 1st March 1948 so long as he stays in a hotel.
10*	High Commissioner in the Union of South Africa.	£2,500 p.a. (fixed).	Sumptuary allowance £ 500 p.a. Special allowance £ 50 p.m. for period spent in Capetown for Parliamentary Session Car allowance £75 p.a.
11*	High Commissioner in the Commonwealth of Australia.	£2,500 p.a.	Equipment allowance £250 (once only). Sumptuary allowance £500 p.a. Car allowance £400 p.a. (including pay of Chauffeur). Free furnished house. Car provided at Government cost.
12	High Commissioner in Pakistan	Rs. 2,500 p.m.	Entertainment allowance Rs. 500 p.m. Free house and a car.
13	High Commissioner in United Kingdom.	£3,000 p.a.	Entertainment allowance £2,500 p.a. House rent allowance £400 p.a. Car allowance. Free car including cost of its maintenance and Chauffeur (being revised).
14	High Commissioner in Ceylon .	Rs. 2,250 p.m. (fixed).	Sumptuary allowance Rs. 500 plus local allowance Rs. 500 Car provided at Government cost (Maintenance of car borne by High Commissioner).
5	Representative in Malaya	Rs. 2,250 p.m. (fixed).	Local allowance Rs. 500 p.m. Sumptuary allowance Rs. 500 Car allowance Rs. 125 p.m. House rent allowance Rs. 150 p.m. Cost of living allowance Rs. 350. Car provided at Government cost. (Maintenance of car borne by Representative).

\*The post is at present vacant but the salary and allowances have been shown in columns 3 and 4 as admissible to the last incumbent.

**Mr. Tajamul Hossain:** Will the Honourable the Prime Minister be pleased to say what would be the yearly expenditure on the Embassies in the United States of America?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** That is what the statement contains more or less.

**Prof. N. G. Ranga:** Have Government collected any information in regard to the similar expenditure incurred by other countries, and seeing whether India's expenditure is less or more?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** I cannot have exact information, but we generally know. India's expenditure bears no comparison with what other countries spend in such matters. It is infinitely less.

### (b) WRITTEN ANSWERS

#### FRANCHISE OF INDIANS IN CANADA AND BRITISH COLUMBIA

703. **\*Shri Lakshminarayan Sahu:** Will the Honourable the Prime Minister be pleased to state with reference to Indians in Canada, particularly in British Columbia :

(a) whether they have received the Dominion and Provincial franchise and the municipal franchise and if so, when;

(b) whether their franchise differs from that of other Canadians and if so, in what respect; and

(c) whether they still suffer from any disabilities and discriminations?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** (a), (b) and (c). Except in British Columbia Indians in Canada have not at any time been under any disability in respect of federal or provincial franchise. In British Columbia provincial franchise was conferred on Indians having adequate knowledge of English or French on the 2nd April 1947 and as a result Indians became eligible also for the federal franchise. They are not yet eligible for the municipal franchise in British Columbia but it is hoped that as a result of a resolution passed in September last by the Union of British Columbia Municipalities favouring removal of the disability of Indians in respect of municipal franchise, necessary legislation will be introduced at an early date to give effect to the resolution. So far as Government are aware, Indians in Canada are not subject to any other disability.

#### RECIPROCAL AND RETALIATORY ACTIONS BY INDIA AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA

**704. \*Shri Lakshminarayan Sahu:** Will the Honourable the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) the reciprocal and retaliatory measures taken by India against South Africa; and

(b) similar action, if any, taken by South Africa against India?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** (a) Government made rules in 1944 under the Reciprocity Act of 1943, (i) declaring all persons of South African domicile, who are not of Indian origin, to be prohibited immigrants and regulating their entry into India by permits; (ii) prohibiting South Africans of non-Indian origin, domiciled in Natal and Transvaal, from acquiring, hiring or occupying any immovable property except with the permission of the Central Government and (iii) declaring all South Africans except those domiciled in the Cape Province ineligible for election to any local authority or for voting in the election to any such authority. Further, Government of India issued a notification in July 1944 prohibiting all exports to and Imports from South Africa.

(b) The measures enumerated under (i), (ii) and (iii) in reply to part (a) of the question were taken by Government in reply to similar measures which had already been adopted by the Government of South Africa against persons of Indian origin domiciled in South Africa. Government of India are not aware of any action taken by the South African Government in regard to trade relations with India.

#### ALLOTMENT OF MUSLIM EVACUEES' CINEMAS AND THEATRES

**705. \*Shri Ramnarayan Singh:** Will the Honourable Minister of Relief and Rehabilitation be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cinema theatres which belonged to Muslims who left for Pakistan;

(b) to whom these cinema theatres were allotted and on what terms; and

(c) whether any Association of Refugee Exhibitors approached Government for the allotment of such theatres to them on co-operative basis and if so, with what results?

**The Honourable Shri K. O. Neogy:** (a) Seven cinema theatres have been abandoned by Muslims in the East Punjab. No cinema theatre has been abandoned by any Muslim in Delhi and Ajmer-Merwara Provinces.

(b) No allotment of cinemas has been made so far.

(c) Yes, the representation has been forwarded to the East Punjab Government and is receiving consideration of the Provincial Government.

#### POOR HEALTH OF LABOURERS IN TEA PLANTATIONS

**706. \*Shri Damodar Swarup Seth:** Will the Honourable Minister of Labour be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the observations of Major E. Lloyd Jones, Director General of Health Services, published in the *Hindustan Times* dated the 19th February, 1948, regarding the poor health of labourers engaged in tea plantations, owing to undernourishment, defective and impure water supply and poor housing; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to take immediate measures to give effect to the suggestions made by Major Jones for providing them with better medical facilities and more nutritive diet?

**The Honourable Shri Jagjivan Ram:** At the first session of the Plantation Labour Conference held on the 8th and 9th January 1947 it was agreed that Government should prescribe the standards of medical services to be maintained in the plantations. To assist Government in the prescription of the standards, Major Lloyd Jones was deputed to visit the plantations and draw up in consultation with the Provincial Governments, Employers and Employers' Associations suitable standards of medical care. In submitting his report he has naturally referred to the poor health conditions, defective and impure water supply, undernourishing and poor housing conditions.

The programme suggested by Major Lloyd Jones in regard to the improvement of medical services will be discussed at the next meeting of the Industrial Committee on Plantations, which has been fixed for the 31st of this month. To the extent to which provision of better diet is bound up with wages, the question will be discussed at the next meeting of the Committee in connection with the question of fixation of wages. Other suggestions relating to the improvement of cattle, poultry farming, vegetable growing are for the provincial Governments to consider and act upon. Copies of reports have been sent to them.

#### BILL TO LIFT POST WAR MORATORIUM OF DEBATES IN SINGAPORE AND ADVERSE EFFECT ON INDIAN FIRMS

**707. { Shri K. Santhanam:**  
**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** Will the Honourable the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the Government of Singapore have published a Bill to lift the post-war moratorium on debts incurred prior to or during the period of enemy occupation of the colony;

(b) whether Government are aware that the Bill provides for full validation of payment during the period of Japanese occupation?

(c) whether Government are aware that under the provisions of the Bill all debts incurred during enemy occupation which are still partly or wholly outstanding are to be re-valued according to a sliding scale;

(d) whether Government are aware that the Bill provides for a differential treatment of Banks and money lenders;

(e) whether, as a result of the proposed Bill, the Indian firms will be hard

hit in their relations with the customers on the one hand and the European Banks on the other; and

(f) whether the Government of India have taken or propose to take any action in the matter?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** (a) The Honourable Member is presumably referring to the "Debtor and Creditor (Occupation Period) Ordinance, 1948" introduced in the Malayan Legislatures. Government have seen the Bill.

(b) The Bill provides for recognition of payments made to a creditor or his agent in occupation currency during the Japanese occupation of Malaya at the face value of such currency except when it can be proved that acceptance of payment in occupation currency was the result of duress or coercion or if the payment was made even though it was not due. In these exceptional circumstances any payment made shall be revalued in accordance with a prescribed scale.

(c) Yes.

(d) Yes.

(e) Yes. A large number of Indian money lending firms and individuals whose agents were in the occupied territory during the war, will be adversely affected by the Bill.

(f) Suitable representations have already been made by the Government of India to the Malayan Governments and His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom.

#### WORKING AND EXPENDITURE OF EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGE DEPARTMENT

**708. \*Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** Will the Honourable Minister of Labour be pleased to state:

(a) the year and month of the starting of the Employment Exchange;

(b) the up-to-date total expenditure incurred on this Department;

(c) the number of persons at present employed there;

(d) the present monthly expenditure; and

(e) the monthly average of persons for whom employment was found during the year 1947?

**The Honourable Shri Jagjivan Ram:** (a) The 54 Employment Exchanges and 22 District Employment offices at present functioning in the Dominion of India were started at different dates between December 1943 and November 1947 as shown in the statement which is placed on the table. The Employment Exchanges at Bombay, Nagpur, Delhi, Cawnpore, Ahmedabad, Dhanbad, Madras and Calcutta which were started before the setting up of the Resettlement and Employment Organisation in July 1945 dealt with technical personnel only and were merged in that organisation.

(b) The total expenditure incurred on Employment Exchanges from July 1945 (the date on which the Resettlement and Employment Organisation came into existence) to 31st December 1947, is approximately Rs. 59,28,500, out of which Central Government's share is about Rs. 41,86,000 and the Provincial Government's contribution about Rs. 17,92,500.

(c) The total number of persons employed in the Employment Exchanges at present is 1,271 (Gazetted 172 and non-Gazetted 1,099).

(d) Approximately Rs. 1,82,800; the Central and Provincial Government's shares being roughly Rs. 1,14,500 and Rs. 68,300 respectively.

(e) The average monthly number of persons placed in employment by the Employment Exchanges during 1947 was 18,448.

*Statements*  
*Showing the year and month of the opening of the Employment Exchanges and District Employment Offices*

Region	Employment Exchange District Employment Office	Month and year of opening
<i>Bihar and Orissa</i>	Cuttack	December 1945.
	Dhanbad	February 1944.
	Jamshedpur	November 1945.
	Muzaffarpur	February 1946.
	*Patna	October 1945.
<i>Bombay</i>	*Bombay	December 1943.
	Ahmedabad	July 1944.
	Bombay (Dockyard)	June 1947.
	Hubli	February 1946.
	Parel (Bombay)	May 1946.
	Jalgaon	May 1946.
	Poona	February 1946.
	Sholapur	February 1946.
	Surat	February 1946.
<i>C. P. and Berar</i>	Amraoti	November 1946.
	Jubbulpore	October 1945.
	*Nagpur	February 1944.
	Raipur	April 1946.
<i>Delhi and Ajmer-Merwara</i>	Ajmer	December 1945.
	*Delhi	January 1944.
<i>East Punjab</i>	Ambala	December 1945.
	†Kurukshetra	October 1947.
	†Simla	October 1947.
	Amritsar	November 1945.
	Dharamsala	May 1946.
	*Gurdaspur	October 1945.
	Ferozepore	November 1947.
	Jullundur	September 1945.
	†Hoshiarpur	October 1947.
	†Ludhiana	October 1947.
	Rohtak	May 1946.
	†Gurgaon	October 1947.
	†Hissar	October 1947.
<i>Madras and Coorg</i>	Anantapur	January 1946.
	†Bellary	January 1947.
	†Cuddappah	January 1947.
	†Kurnool	January 1947.
	Bezwada	October 1945.
	†Elore	January 1947.
	†Guntur	January 1947.
	Calicut	December 1945.
	†Mangalore	January 1947.
	Coimbatore	October 1945.
	†Salem	January 1947.
	*Madras	December 1943.
	†Nellore	January 1947.
	†Saidapet	January 1947.
	Madras	April 1946.
	Madura	April 1946.
	†Ramanad	January 1947.
	†Tinnevely	January 1947.
	Trichinopoly	April 1946.
	†Cuddalore	January 1947.
	†Tanjore	January 1947.
	Vellore	April 1946.
	†Chittoor	January 1947.
	Vizagapatam	December 1945.
	†Coconada	January 1947.
<i>United Provinces</i>	Agra	September 1945.
	Allahabad	November 1945.
	Almora	February 1946.
	Bareilly	December 1946.

\*Indicates Regional Employment Exchange.

†Indicates District Employment Office.

Region	Employment Exchange District Employment Office	Month and year of opening
United Provinces—contd.	Gorakhpur	November 1945.
	Jhansi	January 1946.
	*Kanpur	January 1944.
	Leasdowne	May 1946.
	Lucknow	September 1945.
West Bengal	Meerut	September 1945.
	Assaol	January 1946.
	Barrackpore	January 1947.
	Calcutta	December 1943.
	Darjeeling	March 1946.
	Howrah	July 1947.
	Jorhat	July 1946.
	Kidderpore	January 1947.
	Shillong	November 1945.

#### AGREEMENT BETWEEN INDIA AND U. S. A. RE EXCHANGE OF OFFICIAL PUBLICATION.

709. \*Seth Govinddas: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Works, Mines and Power be pleased to state whether any agreement in regard to exchange of official publications has been made between the Governments of the United States of America and India?

(b) If not, do Government propose to take steps to make such an agreement with a view to securing enough number of copies of the official publications of the United States of America, so that every Indian University and other important institution may be supplied one copy of each?

The Honourable Shri H. V. Gadgil: (a) Certain priced publications of the Government of India are supplied free of charge to the Library of Congress, Washington. This Government also receives copies of certain publications from the United States of America Government.

(b) There is no such proposal under consideration.

#### SHORT NOTICE QUESTION AND ANSWER.

NON-AVAILABILITY OF COPIES OF THE 'DRAFT CONSTITUTION OF INDIA' TO THE PUBLIC.

Shri S. V. Krishnamurthy Rao: Will the Honourable Minister of Works, Mines and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that sufficient number of copies of the 'Draft Constitution of India' are not available to the public; and

(b) the arrangements Government propose to make to meet the demand of the public immediately?

The Honourable Shri H. V. Gadgil: (a) and (b). 8,000 copies of the "Draft Constitution of India" were supplied to the Constituent Assembly on or about the 26th February, 1948. 7,000 more copies have since been printed up, while a fresh order for another 5,000 copies has just been received. Over and above this, 5,000 copies of the *Gazette Extraordinary*, containing the "Draft Constitution" have been printed up and another 700 copies will be supplied very shortly.

Copies of the "Draft Constitution" have already been kept for sale through our agents at the Railway Book-Stalls and in various important towns throughout India. Government consider that the arrangements made for sale of copies to the public are adequate.

Shri S. V. Krishnamurthy Rao: May I know if any instructions have been issued to provinces and states to have the Draft Constitution published in their gazettes?

The Honourable Shri H. V. Gadgil: If we find that the copies we print are insufficient that will be done.

**Shri S. V. Krishnamurthy Rao:** Will Government issue instructions so that the Draft Constitution may reach all persons interested in public life like District Board members, members of municipalities and provincial assemblies?

**The Honourable Shri N. V. Gadgil:** That will be done.

**Seth Govinddas:** Are Government going to publish a Hindi translation of the Draft Constitution in the near future?

**The Honourable Shri N. V. Gadgil:** It is for the Constituent Assembly to say. Whatever they ask us to publish we publish.

**Prof. Shibban Lal Saksena:** Is the Honourable Minister aware that copies are not available and people are hankering after them? Will the Honourable Minister see that copies are made available?

**The Honourable Shri N. V. Gadgil:** So many copies have been printed, more will be printed and they will be available in the near future.

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** Could not the Honourable Minister have anticipated the demand? Did he not expect that about 50,000 people at least will be interested in the Constitution of India?

**Mr Speaker:** That is hardly a question.

**Shri K. Santhanam:** Have any arrangements been made to see that the Draft Constitution is translated in the various provincial languages?

**The Honourable Shri N. V. Gadgil:** That is for the President of the Constituent Assembly to decide. I merely execute the orders.

**Seth Govinddas:** Has any Hindi translation of the constitution been sent to the Government of India for publication?

**The Honourable Shri N. V. Gadgil:** Whatever the President of the Constituent Assembly wants we are bound to do.

**Seth Govinddas:** Have they sent any Hindi translation?

**The Honourable Shri N. V. Gadgil:** Not so far.

## DELHI AND AJMER-MERWARA LAND DEVELOPMENT BILL.

### EXTENSION OF TIME FOR PRESENTATION OF REPORT OF SELECT COMMITTEE

**The Honourable Shri Jai Ramdas Doulatram (Minister of Food and Agriculture):** Sir, I beg to move:

"That the time appointed for the presentation of the report of the Select Committee on the Bill to provide for the preparation and execution of land development schemes, the reclamation of waste-land and the control of private forests and grass-land, in the Provinces of Delhi and Ajmer-Merwara, be further extended upto Monday, the 29th March, 1949."

[Shri Jairamdas Daulatram]

May I, with your permission, just say that a meeting of the Select Committee was held a few days ago and it was felt that the machinery for the preparation and execution of the schemes of development needed further reconsideration. A sub-committee was appointed and its report was received yesterday. The Committee will need time to go into that report and other provisions of the Bill. So I request that the time for the presentation of the report be extended upto the 20th March, 1948.

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

"That the time appointed for the presentation of the report of the Select Committee on the Bill to provide for the preparation and execution of land development schemes, the reclamation of waste-land and the control of private forests and grass-land, in the Provinces of Delhi and Ajmer-Merwara, be further extended upto Monday the 20th March, 1948."

The motion was adopted.

### INDIAN RAILWAYS (AMENDMENT) BILL.

**The Honourable Dr. John Matthai** (Minister for Railways and Transport): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Indian Railways Act, 1900.

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

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Indian Railways Act, 1900."

The motion was adopted.

**The Honourable Dr. John Matthai:** Sir, I introduce the Bill.

### RAILWAYS (TRANSPORT OF GOODS) (AMENDMENT) BILL.

**The Honourable Dr. John Matthai** (Minister for Railways and Transport): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to amend the Railways (Transport of Goods) Act, 1947.

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

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to amend the Railways (Transport of Goods) Act, 1947."

The motion was adopted.

**The Honourable Dr. John Matthai:** Sir, I introduce the Bill.

### PROTECTIVE DUTIES CONTINUATION BILL.

**The Honourable Mr. C. H. Bhabha** (Minister for Commerce): Sir, there is a motion in my name which is first on the list of business and it has been passed over.

**Mr. Speaker:** This item was included in the original agenda and then a supplementary agenda was issued stating that this motion was not to be included in today's agenda.



**The Honourable Mr. C. H. Bhabha:** I had no information about it, Sir. That was why I raised the issue.

**Mr. Speaker:** If the Honourable Minister is willing and ready he may introduce his Bill now.

**The Honourable Mr. C. H. Bhabha:** Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to extend the date up to which duties characterised as protective in the First Schedule to the Indian Tariff Act, 1934, shall have effect, and further to amend the Sugar Industry (Protection) Act, 1932.

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

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to extend the date upto which duties characterised as protective in the First Schedule to the Indian Tariff Act, 1934, shall have effect, and further to amend the Sugar Industry (Protection) Act, 1932."

The motion was adopted.

**The Honourable Mr. C. H. Bhabha:** Sir, I introduce the Bill.

GENERAL BUDGET—LIST OF DEMANDS—*contd.*  
SECOND STAGE—*contd.*

**Mr. Speaker:** The House will now proceed with the Demands for Grants. The Demands that are coming up today for discussion are Nos. 23, 16 and 50. I shall now place these Demands before the House:

DEMAND No. 23—MINISTRY OF WORKS, MINES AND POWER.

**Mr. Speaker:** Motion is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 17,95,000 be granted to the Governor General to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1949, in respect of 'Ministry of Works, Mines and Power'."

DEMAND No. 16—MINISTRY OF EDUCATION.

**Mr. Speaker:** Motion is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 29,33,000 be granted to the Governor-General to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1949, in respect of 'Ministry of Education'."

DEMAND No. 50—EDUCATION.

**Mr. Speaker:** Motion is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 36,31,000 be granted to the Governor-General to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1949, in respect of 'Education'."

DEMAND No. 23—MINISTRY OF WORKS, MINES AND POWER.

*Utilisation of Water Resources and Policy of Central Water-power, Irrigation and Navigation Commission.*

**Shri Mihir La' Chattopadhyay** (West Bengal: General): Sir, I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Works, Mines and Power' be reduced by Rs. 100."

**Mr. Speaker:** Cut motion moved:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Works, Mines and Power' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Policy re. Building of Houses and Quarters.*

**Mr. R. K. Sidhva:** (C. P. and Berar: General): Sir, I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Works, Mines and Power' be reduced by Rs. 100."

**Mr. Speaker:** Cut motion moved:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Works, Mines and Power' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Policy re. Development of Mineral Resources*

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh** (C.P. and Berar: General): Sir, I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Works, Mines and Power' be reduced by Rs. 100."

**Mr. Speaker:** Cut motion moved:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Works, Mines and Power' be reduced by Rs. 100."

I presume the Honourable Minister will require about half an hour for his reply to the debate.

**The Honourable Shri N. V. Gadgil** (Minister for Works, Mines and Power): Sir, there are three cut motions practically covering the whole of the field of activities of my Ministry and 15 minutes for each cut motion will be appropriate.

**Mr. Speaker:** That will leave one hour for general discussion.

**Shri Mihir Lal Chattopadhyay:** Mr. Speaker, the question of conservation and utilisation of the water resources of India is a matter of the utmost importance, which can not be exaggerated. The importance of this matter is accentuated all the more due to the division of this country. This division has not only cut the geographical unit of the country but its economic unit as well. India, as it is constituted today, has great potentialities in industrial and mineral resources. But the part of the country that has been cut off had greater resources in agricultural development. To make up this deficiency of agricultural development and the internal economy of this country it is of the utmost importance that the water resources of our country should be developed to the utmost limit of utility. It is an unfortunate matter that only 6 per cent. of the available water resources of this country are utilised for agriculture and other purposes through irrigation channels or other means. The remaining 94 per cent. of the water, without doing any benefit to the country, flows waste to the seas and in very many cases causes damage to property, crop and other things. If India is to have a balanced economy it must have to develop the water resources to the maximum limit and here comes the duty of the Minister in charge of Works, Mines and Power.

While coming to deal with the Ministry I would like to say that the future of the country depends much on the activities of this Ministry. The development of the country lies in its hands. Though this Ministry has come forward with a Bill regarding the Damodar Valley Project which is calculated to be an eye-opener in the matter of the development of our waterways, there is still much left to be done. While reminding the Ministry about the urgency of developing the water resources I am fully aware that this Ministry has got in hand many big schemes which are likely to take shape some day and shape the destiny of this nation. Some of the schemes have gone well ahead, some are in the process of execution. But in the matter of execution of these schemes it is generally felt that co-operation and co-ordination of the Provinces are of the utmost importance. I well realize the fact that the Central Government may be too willing and eager to help these projects with money, technical skill and other advice. The Provinces ought to take full advantage of them. But it very often happens that some project which might be the concern of two Provinces ultimately becomes the responsibility of none. In India at this stage we have to feel that the prosperity of the country is one and indivisible and any obstacle created by any Province in the development of these multi-purpose schemes will not only stop the onward march of progress and prosperity but also spell disaster to this country. Many of the rivers take their origin in one Province and get into

another Province, and any scheme which is calculated to control and utilise such rivers must have the assistance and co-ordination of both the Provinces. Unfortunately for our country the provincial jurisdictions are of such a nature that natural frontiers and jurisdictions have seldom been observed in the creation of the Provinces, as a result of which many impediments and difficulties arise from time to time in the path of fructification of these multi-purpose schemes. I request the Central Government to take initiative in these matters. It might be that any multi-purpose scheme may benefit one Province more and another Province to a less degree. The Province that is likely to get less benefit may feel lukewarm or it may often be that it may create impediments and difficulties. In this connection I would like to cite as an instance a particular scheme involving the Provinces of Bihar and Bengal. A river, *matuakshi* that takes its origin in the hilly tracts of Santal Parganas in Bihar flows into Bengal and that river, without doing much good to the people, had been allowed all these years to flow absolutely unutilised. These are days of the utmost scarcity of food. Every year crores of rupees worth of food we have to purchase from outside. Our economic wealth is being drained away like anything. In connection with this project I understand good deal of difficulties have arisen. The Province of Bihar not being eager to afford facilities for the construction of a dam has been creating a direct obstacle in the path of agricultural development of West Bengal. West Bengal unfortunately is a deficit Province. Over and above that, it has to receive a very large number of people—far larger than the number that have migrated from West Punjab or Sind. These people have been migrating from East Bengal. They have to be rehabilitated. Food has to be found out for them and agriculturists have also to be provided with land. The Damodar Valley Project is really a marvellous attempt on the part of the Government of India. Similar is the Mor-project. It costs much less than the Damodar and proportionately yields much more result so far as agricultural produce is concerned. It is really the duty of the Central Government to take up this project in right earnest and try to persuade the two provinces to come to an agreement as early as possible so that the River Mayurakshi may be developed to the best prosperity of Bengal and by that, the prosperity of India.

I would like to speak about the necessity of resuscitating and reclaiming the various waterways of India. This is urgent from various standpoints and particularly from the standpoint of navigation. There has been a good deal of burden on the railway system. The railway system cannot by itself deal effectively with the commerce and trade of this country. A secondary transport system has got to be found out. There was a time when the entire trade of the country was being carried along the river. There was a time when the river Indus was navigable to the extent of 1,000 miles. There was a time when the rivers in the Punjab were navigable to the extent of 800 miles, and even 50 years before the Ganges was navigable from the mouth right up to Cawnpore. But unfortunately the river Ganges has dried up and in the rainy season it is navigable only upto a few miles beyond Patna. In Bengal this river Ganges, usually known as Hooghly or Bhagirathi, is the lifeblood of the province. On it depends the prosperity and wealth of the province. That river is completely dried up. Even within the province the river is not navigable all through the year. If trade and commerce is to be improved, if the village people have to be provided with occupation in the transport services of India, it is of the utmost importance from the health point of view, the prosperity standpoint and from the standpoint of movement of trade and commerce that the river Ganges should be reclaimed, resuscitated and trained. In this connection I would also urge the importance of affording navigational facilities in the rural areas all over the country. Navigation has been neglected and it is up to the Department of Central Waterways, Irrigation and Navigation to prove their merit and worth, and do everything for the improvement of navigation.

**Mr. R. K. Sidhva:** Sir, of so many miseries that the war has brought in this country, one is the dearth of houses, the population of so many towns has increased both during and after the war to such an extent that in big cities it has doubled and even trebled. Notwithstanding this fact it is very regrettable that the Government has taken no bold policy or programme to improve the miserable condition of the people who roam about day to day from door to door in search of living space. I do admit that on top of this the unfortunate partition came and the refugees' trouble became more miserable. But, Sir, cities were actually bombed during war: but their Governments immediately planned out and they realised that for the prosperity of their own country and for the good of the people whom they rule, the first thing to do is to provide them with houses. I would submit a few figures in this connection. In Britain, up to July 1947, 2,76,000 houses were provided, and in only one month—June 1947—17,000 houses were built. In Russia, Leningrad was half bombed and destroyed. A friend from Moscow who came and saw me yesterday tells me that half of Leningrad, with all its houses, which was destroyed has been built up, and that by 1951 Leningrad will be something to be proud of by the people of Russia when the 5-year programme is completed. Well, Sir, I want to know what has our Government done? This Government has adopted the policy of requisitioning houses. That is their policy. Instead of going on with the programme of building houses, they have requisitioned houses and aggravated the situation. I know that they require houses for their officers, for their staff, chaprasis, for Embassies and all sorts of persons; they have requisitioned houses for big people and small people. But let me tell the Government that the smallest of the small men have also suffered due to requisitioning, and instead of this requisitioning business being discontinued or reduced to a minimum, the number of houses that are requisitioned is increasing. Would you solve this problem by the requisitioning of houses? I want to know what is the policy of the Honourable Minister in order to remove this misery. Nothing has been done. During the last session he told us that so many thousands of houses for officers, clerks and peons have been built. I carried the impression from his answer that within one month the work would be started. But only a few days ago I put the same question and he said everything was ready and the work will soon be started. From the Budget, you will see, Sir, that he has made a provision, but my point is there is no initiative, no imagination in this matter to see that the sufferings of the people are removed. Government have done nothing to remove the sufferings of the people, and I dare say Government have failed in the discharge of their duty as far as this particular subject is concerned.

The excuse has been levelled that we have no building material, that iron and steel are not available, that cement is not available. It is a fact. But may I know how many buildings were built during the war, known as hutments? The meaning of the hutments in the dictionary is: "A small mean house of wood structure". These buildings known as huts, in our Indian language are known as *jupri*. But would you call these *jupris*? They are fine buildings built of baked bricks without any cement being used excepting on the floor, and the roof is constructed of wooden rafts and stone slabs. These are fine dwellings. You have got enough bricks today, you have got enough stones and enough wood. I fail to understand why thousands of such buildings should not have been constructed by this time; and even today the Government is sleeping in this direction. Sir, I am staying in the Constitution House and it is exactly of the same type as the so called hutments, and I can say that the life of the building, if properly cared for, will be 100 years. It may be that there are no amenities in this building but there are in other hutments. Why have Government not constructed buildings like these? If you say we have no steel, what has become of ten lakhs tons of steel we produce annually.

Government have distributed five lakhs to Railways; quite right, I know it is necessary, if it goes to the Railways.  $1\frac{1}{2}$  lakh tons go to the packing industry, which is only a fraction. Then  $2\frac{1}{2}$  lakhs go to fabricators—and this is the black-marketing field. After fabricating the article there is no control over the matter and wholesale black-marketing of articles of manufacture is done.  $2\frac{1}{2}$  lakh tons have been given to Provinces; I am very glad that the Provinces have been encouraged to build houses. But is it so? Out of that, 70 per cent. is again reserved for fabricators. This fabricating business is something very much to be heard of. It was the European concerns who have got these big iron foundries and they have taken, in the name of small fabricators, a large quota of steel from Government; representations have been made from time to time but no attention has been paid to it. If any control has to go immediately, it is the steel control. Half a lakh is provided for private industries; I know there are many industries coming up and they have got no steel or iron.

I say that even if you want steel or iron to be used, we have got our own factories; why do you not commandeer those? If you can commandeer them and distribute the steel properly, you can certainly use the steel for houses. But let me tell you that steel is not necessary unless you want to build palatial houses—in that case you may require large quantities of cement or iron—but if you want it for the immediate purpose, when we have not got cement and iron, why not build thousands of blocks like these? These blocks are accommodating thousands of clerks and officers. So many of our clerks are without houses. The policy of the Government is to build somewhere in Timarpur in the Civil Lines, which is nearly nine miles from here—for our poor clerks it is at the other end of Delhi. The site is further up the Maidens Hotel. These are the quarters they are building—I saw in the Budget—for our clerks and our peons. I put a question the other day: in New Delhi you have enough space, why do you not build there? The answer was, “No; these are reserved for construction of better type of buildings for officers”; You must provide for your staff near the Secretariat so that they must be available at hand and you can save the conveyance allowance paid to them. The poor clerk has to come from his house one hour in advance; if you go into the streets, lakhs of people are going on cycles—they have come from one end to the other for their duty. Cannot Government use imagination for this purpose and see that when space is available they should be housed nearer to the office? Curzon Road is  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles from here and I say there, on one side 24 bungalows and 19 bungalows on the other side; I do not want to go into details because those bungalows are sold in the past to private people. But there is ample space existing in New Delhi; what is the Government doing? I expected that the Honourable Minister who is our man—he was a middleclass man like myself, lower middleclass man—would really feel the inconvenience of the lower middleclass men; and he, of all the Ministers, has taken absolutely no pains in this matter. I am pained to see it.

On the other hand, what are the Provinces doing? Despite scarcity of material they are doing something. Go to Bombay, you find some houses built by private enterprise. I went to Madras, I saw houses there. Although they cannot do much, they are doing something.

I will give an illustration. The Pakistan Government came into Karachi in the month of August. Pakistan had no Pakistan offices there. Sind Government invited tenders for Rs. 2 crores with the condition that they must construct buildings worth one crore within two months. I can bear testimony—and I was present there in the month of June. The contract was given in June and by the 1st of August quarters for the accommodation of 7,000 office clerks and 25,000 of the family members were completed, and by the end of August fine modern type of sanitation etc. was provided. You can ask your Engineer who has come from Sind; you have got your Superintending Engineer for further testimony as to how they built these blocks. If the Pakistan

[Mr. R. K. Sidhva.]

Government—a small Government—can do such a thing within two months, I am ashamed to see that our Government, a bigger Government, could not do anything. My regret is that they have not energy in this matter. They do not feel like us, they do not feel like the average man who is roaming about for search of a house. I know people in Bombay running from place to place for a house. When I go to Bombay people come to me, here in Delhi people come to me for houses—small men, I am not talking of big men—and nobody takes notice of it. Is this our Government? I am asking in all seriousness. I cannot help them; how can I?

Sir, this is the condition in which our Government is functioning. I do hope that if Government has really to see to the feelings of these poor, fallen people, the first thing they must do is to provide more houses. It is no use saying we have built so many houses for so many clerks etc. I want him to plan immediately a programme of 5 years, and within the next year he must spend Rs. 10 crores. It will be a capital sum; they will get realization, it is not money to be wasted—after all you will get 5, 6 or 7 per cent. return on it. It is a business proposition which will require a little grip to understand the whole position.

Sir, if you go over page 202 you will see under item "Staff". It gives Chief Engineers—2; Superintending Engineers—18; and may I tell you that the grade of a Superintending Engineer is not less than Rs. 1,500—2,000. Then Executive Engineers—62. I do not think that these are only for building houses—they may be for irrigation, they may be for our Central purposes. Irrigation is a provincial subject and yet we have such a large number of high paid staff. You have got here 18 Superintending Engineers and 62 Executive Engineers to look after your building work and we have no building work being done. Let me tell you so many of them are without proper work; they are idling there. Go to the P.W.D. office; I have gone there; I have seen an officer stretch his leg, reading a newspaper—a high-paid officer. And they say, "We have not got work, building work is not there"; I would not like to mention the name, I do not want to harm anybody but the fact is there. Government do not feel the waste of maintaining a large staff for this purpose, although the work is not sufficient.

Then, Sir, no initiative, no encouragement, is given to private builders. No co-operative society is being formed. In every city—go to Madras, go to Karachi—of course, Karachi is out of the question now—go to Bombay, everywhere you will find housing co-operative societies. In the same way, here also land should be given away to the people who want to build houses of their own. There are three types of builders. There are men who want to build houses for other people on a hire purchase system. Then there are men who want to build for themselves. Then there are those who want to build through co-operative societies. Through these three types of builders houses are being built in the Provinces. I fail to see why such an encouragement should not be given by this Government, which adds to the difficulties rather than removing those that already exist. Government do not do anything. Government do not want to help the public to do anything. If they will let the public to build on a co-operative basis and give them land, I can assure you, Sir, a large number of houses could be provided for the middle class people and for the lower middle class people.

Sir, I shall finish soon. I shall only take one minute more with your kind permission. Delhi ought to be a specimen and a model for people to come and see. The Provinces ought to come to Delhi and see everything. They should say: "This is a specimen. This is our capital. We must go to Delhi and see what they are doing." Today Delhi is third rate in communication; it is third rate in post offices; it is third rate in telephones; it is third rate in houses; it



is third rate in every respect, whereas other towns are progressing. It should be, Sir, the desire of the Honourable Minister and it should be his pride that he should build Delhi in such a manner that everyone from outside should come and see and imitate what Delhi is doing.

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** Sir, the cut motion of which I have given notice is for the purpose of discussing the policy of the Government of India with regard to the development of the mineral resources of the country. Actually, it is the exploitation of mineral resources that is more important than development. Mineral exploitation and development form the basis of modern industrialisation, as it is through mining and minerals that industry gets the ores and raw materials required. These are the two starting points of manufactures which are essential for the welfare of individuals and of nations.

The list of India's imports shows that 50 per cent. of them are goods manufactured out of mineral raw material. Our key industries and most of our strategic requirements depend upon the products of mines. Although the mineral resources of India are not considered enormous in comparison with the size and population of the country, they are none the less not inconsiderable. In at least three minerals we are said to have an exportable surplus which can dominate the world market. These are iron-ore, Titanium-ore and mica. Besides these, there are at least a dozen materials including manganese-ore, bauxite, silica, monosite etc. in which we have an exportable surplus which can be regarded as an important factor in world market. There are two dozen others in which we are not only self-sufficient for our present but even for our immediate future needs. These include coal, aluminium-ore, gold, marble, slate, building-stone, lime-stone, alum, arsenic, sodium salts, alkalis etc. This leaves only a dozen and a half others, for which of course we have to depend entirely on foreign imports. But even considering what we have, if we were to exploit the reserves that we possess, that would take us very far in meeting the needs of both the industries as well as the Defence Department.

Until very recently, Sir, the Provincial Governments were looking after these mines, and even now the subject falls within their jurisdiction. Unfortunately, however, they have paid very little attention to either the development or the utilisation or conservation of the mineral deposits. The Government Department which is in charge of the mineral resources of the country depended almost wholly on the Geological Survey of India, and although this Department has been maintained by the Central Government, right up to 1942, it was primarily a scientific organisation, engaged in the preparation of a geological map of India. In 1942, owing to the exigencies of war, there was a departure, when the utilisation branch of this organisation for detailed exploration of promising mineral deposits was established. That too was a war-time measure and therefore it was also abolished before it could prove of any use or develop any capacity for production. According to my information, Sir, even today there is no single Department that determines the general policy with regard to this matter. The salt mines, for instance, are mainly operated by the Central Board of Revenue, a number of coal mines are worked by the Railway Department and some by the Labour and Supply Departments. The Works, Mines and Power Department which was the head of the Geological Survey of India and in charge of the Indian Mines Department had no statutory authority to regulate the mining industry of the country or to direct the utilisation of minerals for the most appropriate and economical and remunerative purposes. Nor did it possess any effective agency for safeguarding the conservation of national mineral resources or the prevention of uneconomical and wasteful exploitation.

Sir, I would like to give an instance of how our mineral resources are neglected and wasted. We have a very important mineral known as Titanic.

[Dr. P. S. Deshmukh]

It is also known as Ilmanite and these are translated as ores of Titanium. There are large reserves of this in the south of India, between Travancore and the Comorin coast, and until recently we were selling the material produced in these mines at the rate of 10 shillings per ton. (*An Honourable Member*: "Ten shilling per ton! Really") Yes. That is what is stated in Government publications. While Titanic was selling so cheap Titanic di-oxide which did not require much of processing was sold at £100 per ton! This is a glaring instance of the way in which we have neglected our natural resources and how we have permitted their exploitation by foreign firms to an absolutely disconcerting extent.

After a long time, Sir, we held a Conference for the purpose of revising and if possible evolving some sort of a general and definite policy. The Conference took place more than fourteen months ago, i.e. in the month of January 1947. As all conferences, the conference was held and it dispersed. But there are neither any specific resolutions on record nor have I learnt of any specific decisions having been taken and given effect to. It is a matter of common knowledge that we, inspite of our desire to the contrary, are living in almost war times. An interminable war is going on in China. The Indonesian issue is still unsettled and the partition of Palestine and the exploitation of European countries are all sowing the seeds of another world war. It is quite patent that only by being fully prepared for war we can assist peace. It is time, therefore, that we place our whole administration on a war basis and do not allow any time to pass which may bring about our undoing in the near future; and we could do nothing better than paying our most earnest attention to the development of the mineral resources of our country. I have referred to the conference that was recently held and one of the proposals that emanated from the discussions in the Conference was that there should be a Central Bureau of Mines. I do not know, Sir, what steps have been taken for giving effect to this recommendation. One of the complaints that is being made with regard to the development of this department is that we have not the personnel and the experts that are needed. It was pointed out that we will require a large number of geologists and they are not easily available. I would like to know, Sir, what steps are being taken for obtaining the necessary experts. In this case, Sir, Government ought to have a well-defined policy of sending out our young people to foreign countries. Now, there has been a considerable amount of bungling in this sphere also. Last year, a very large number of foreign scholarships were given in an indiscriminate manner. And having burnt their fingers owing to the bad experiment they performed last year, I am told, Sir, that there is no provision for foreign scholarships this year. Now, this is ridiculous. The Government first of all does a thing on the wrong basis, itself commits a mistake, and then wishes to utilise that mistake as the basis for stopping the sending of our young men to foreign countries. This is not the way in which a modern Government of an Independent country could be allowed to work. So, I suggest to the Honourable Minister that even if there is no provision so far made for foreign scholarships, he will move in the matter and at least for the sake of working our mineral resources send a batch of properly qualified young men to foreign countries. Then, Sir, it is not a good policy of starting at the very end in the matter of scholarships and getting technical personnel. If we want to plan for a longer period, we must also go to the schools and get hold of proper talent there, give them proper encouragement so that they may take the subjects and gradually after acquiring proper proficiency in those subjects become capable of benefiting themselves and the country to the utmost by going to foreign countries. That should be the sort of system which I hope, my Honourable friend will attempt to evolve.

Lastly, I would come to the question of nationalization of these resources. I am echoing the feelings of everyone here when I say that these resources



are of a nature which should be the nation's property; and if we have not as yet taken any steps in that direction, it is high time that we did so. It is also well-known, Sir, that most of our mineral resources are exploited by foreigners. Most of these contracts are given to foreign firms if any Indian firms are there the foreigners have a dominating voice even there. I am not one of those, Sir, who is out to quarrel with the foreigners on every score. We need the assistance of many a foreigner, but wherever it is possible to displace them and whenever we find that because of the presence of the foreigners our national interests are suffering there should not be a minute's delay in ousting the foreigner and bringing the Indian. That would be the criterion that I would like to lay down.

\*I hope, Sir, between the conference and now, my Honourable friend would have something to tell the House in the way of taking active steps so as to increase the wealth of the nation and to remove the dependence of India on foreigners and foreign countries.

شری دیھس بندھو گھتا : جناب صدر ! انگلینڈ کے ایک پرائم منسٹر نے ہاؤسنگ کے بارے میں یہ شہد کہے تھے ؟

“If any thing can afford the means of personal growth , it is , the ownership of a house howsoever small but one's own.”

مگر دیکھ کی بات یہ ہے کہ جہاں تک ہماری گورنمنٹ کا تعلق ہے اسوقت تک ہمارا سارا پریتم یا کوشش یہ رہی ہے کہ جن پہلے آدمیوں کے پاس کچھ مکان ہیں انہیں بھی dispossess کرنے کی کوشش کی جائے نئے مکان بنانے کی کوشش نہیں کھینچتی ۔ جناب من ! میں ہاؤسنگ کے مسئلے پر ہاؤس کے سامنے اس سے پہلے بھی کئی مرتبہ آپے وچار رکھ چکا ہوں جناب ! آج دہلی میں اگر سب سے زیادہ کسی چیز کی تکلیف ہے تو وہ مکان کی ہے ۔ پنجاب سلسلہ اور سرحد سے آنے والے بھائی جو لکھنؤ تھے جلدیے پاس بڑے بڑے محل بڑی بڑی جائدادیں تھیں آج وہ ایک ایک کمرے کھلے تھیں رہے ہیں ۔ اور ہم انکی کوئی سہايتا نہیں کر سکتے حالت یہ ہے کہ نہ روپیہ ہے انکی مدد ہو سکتی ہے اور نہ دوستی کا حق ادا کر کے انکے لئے کچھ کہا جاسکتا ہے ۔ اس پر بھی ہماری سرکار کو جتنا دھیان اسطرح دینا چاہیئے تھا وہ نہیں دے سکی اس سے پہلے جب یہ مسئلہ ہمارے سامنے آیا تھا تو میں نے ہاؤس کی توجہ اسطرح کھینچی تھی ۔ کہ دہلی میں امپروومنٹ ٹرسٹ نے جو پلاٹ تیار کئے ہیں اور بڑے اونچے دامنوں پر بھیجے ہیں ۔ انکی سلکھیا چارہزار سات سو ہے یہ چارہزار سات سو پلاٹ امپروومنٹ ٹرسٹ کے بلاتے ہوئے ہیں ۔ لیکن اب تک ان پر مکان نہیں کھڑے ہو سکے اسکا مکھلاؤن یہ ہے کہ ہماری سرکار نے مکانوں کی تعمیر کا کوئی خیال ابھی تک نہیں کیا ہے اسکے لئے بلڈنگ مٹیریل مہیا کرنے کا کوئی پریتم (کوشش) نہیں کیا ابھی چند روز ہوئے پراونشل ریہیبلیٹیشن بورڈ کی ایک سب کمیٹی کی میٹنگ ہوئی تھی میں بھی اس کمیٹی کا ایک ممبر ہوں ۔ اس میٹنگ میں میں نے کمیٹی کے چیرومین سائونٹھون

[ شری دیشو بلندھو گھتا ]

کے کہا کہ ہم جو ٹاؤنشپس Townships بنا رہے ہیں یہ تو ہمارے Refugee بھائیوں کو تسلی دینے کی بات ہے۔ سوال یہ ہے کہ کیا کوئی ایسا طریقہ ہو سکتا ہے کہ ہم تین چار مہینے میں انکے لئے کچھ مکانات کھڑے کر دیں اس وقت انہوں نے بلایا کہ سولہ سو کے قریب ایسے پلاٹ امپروومنٹ ٹرسٹ کی ملکیت میں چلنے لگے لائٹ کا بندوبست ہے سپوریج (Sewerage) کا بندوبست ہے پانی کا بندوبست ہے کہ ان پر مکان کھڑے کئے جاسکیں۔ لیکن آپتی (مشکل) یہ ہے کہ گورنمنٹ نے اس وقت تک باڈنگ مینوریل مہیا کرنے کی کوشش نہیں کی۔ گورنمنٹ کو طرف سے جذبات صدر پچھائی مئی میں ایک کمیٹی بنوائی گئی تھی جو اجلاس پر رپارٹ کرنے کو آئے تھی کہ امپروومنٹ ٹرسٹ جس طریقہ پر زمینیں دیتا ہے اس پر نظر ثانی کیجائے میں بھی اسکا ایک ممبر تھا اس وقت اس کمیٹی نے سفارش کی تھی کہ گورنمنٹ ایک ایسی Experts کی کمیٹی بنوائے جو یہ سوچے کہ باڈنگ مینوریل کسے مہیا ہو سکتا ہے۔ اسٹائل کا بدل کھا ہو سکتا ہے سماعت کا کھا بدل ہو سکتا ہے۔ لیٹائوں کا کوا باندوبست ہو کھی لیٹائوں سے گزارا ہو سکتا ہے یا نہیں۔ لیکن کھد (دکم) ہے کہ اگلے دن گزر جانے کے باوجود ہمارے طور پر کوئی کارروائی نہیں ہوئی۔ چالیس کروڑ لیٹائوں جاگ کے زمانے کی ہائی ہوئی گورنمنٹ کے پاس موجود ہیں اس کمیٹی نے یہ سفارش کی کہ پندرہ روپیہ ہزار کے بھار سے یہ لیٹائیں ہدایک کو دے دی جائیں تاکہ یہ چار یا پانچ ہزار پلاٹ جو پورے ہوئے ہوں ان پر مہینات بنائے جاسکیں بہت سے لوگ مکانات بنانے کو تیار ہیں اور ممکن بن جائیں بعد گورنمنٹ رنٹ ایکٹ بموجب کرایہ Fix کر سکتی ہے اور انکو چاہے تو Requisition بھی کر سکتے ہیں! اس طرح سے نہ گورنمنٹ کا روپیہ خرچ ہوگا اور نہ کوئی اور آپتی بیچ میں آتی ہے اور مکانات تیار ہو سکتے ہوں لیکن میں مینوریل پریکا کہ اس سے نیک جو Importance ہمارا ملک کے مسئلہ کو ہمیں دینا چاہئے تھی وہ ہم نے نہیں دی۔ دہلی میں امپروومنٹ ٹرسٹ کو بلے ہوئے 11 سال ہو چکے ہیں۔ امپروومنٹ ٹرسٹ نے ۴۷ سے لیکر ۴۷ تک جذبات صدر ایک کروڑ ۳۸ لاکھ ۲۷ ہزار ۹۳۵ روپیہ 11½ آنے زمینیں بھیجی ہیں اس عرصہ میں امپروومنٹ ٹرسٹ نے بھی کوشش کی ہے کہ زمینیں بھیجنے سے زیادہ سے زیادہ Price اصول کیجائے، اسکا پروگرام (نتیجہ) یہ ہے کہ ۴۷ میں minimum average sale price چھ روپیہ آئے تھے تو ۴۸ میں جا کر چوتیس روپیہ تھرا آئے ہوگئی۔ اس طرح سے average maximum price ۲۲ روپیہ سے ۳۱ روپیہ ہوگئی۔ ان حالات کی موجودگی میں یہ بات مانتی ہوگئی اور اسکا جواب گورنمنٹ کے پاس کوئی نہیں کہ ہمارا ملک کے مسئلے کو ہم اتنی اہمیت نہیں دیتے رہ جاتلی کہ ہمیں دینی چاہئے تھی جہتک ہم اسے پوری اہمیت نہیں دیتے تب تک جو Problems آج پیدا ہو رہے ہیں وہ حل نہیں ہو سکتے ہیں ہر عرض کرنا کے گورنمنٹ کو اس طرف خاص توجہ کرنی چاہئے میں پوچھنا چاہتا ہوں

ہوں جو پلانٹ گورنمنٹ کے پاس پڑے ہوئے ہیں انکو کیڑوں نہیں بنواتی - پچھلے سشن میں جب ہاؤسنگ کے مسئلے پر بحث ہوئی تھی تو میرے ایک بڑی دوست مسٹر منو صوبہ دار نے یہ تجویز کی تھی کہ ہاؤسنگ کیلئے ایک الگ منسٹری ہونی چاہئے تاکہ وہ منسٹری یہ سوچ سکے کہ کس طرح ہم چھ مہینے میں مکین کھڑے کر سکتے ہیں۔ لیکن اگلے دن ہوگئے سرکار نے اس پر کوئی بھی عملی کارروائی نہیں کی اگر ہم لوگ واقعی اس بارے میں Serious ہیں اور یہ چاہتے ہیں کہ دہلی میں جتنی برائیاں ہاؤسنگ کی کسی کھوج سے پیدا ہو رہی ہیں انکو دور کیا جائے تو ہمیں کوئی زبردست Bold Step لینا پڑیگا جس سب کچھ کی کامیابی کا میں نے ذکر کیا ہے اس نے ایک سفارش یہ بھی کی تھی کہ کوآپریٹو سوسائٹیز encourage کیا جائے اور کوآپریٹو سوسائٹیز کے ذریعہ مڈل کلاس کے لوگوں کو زمینوں دس پندرہ پرسنٹ (منازع پر دیجاتیں تاکہ وہ لوگ کافی تعداد میں اپنے لئے مکانات بنا سکیں) میں آخر میں اس طرف بھی توجہ دلاؤنگا کہ اس پروگرام ٹرسٹ کا مددگار کسی ایک منسٹر کے پاس نہیں ہے شاپٹل میں یہ ہیلتھ منسٹر کے پاس ہے مگر اسکا تعلق زیادہ تر پبلک ورکس منسٹری سے پڑتا ہے ہیلتھ منسٹر کا زیادہ واسطہ ہیلتھ اور میڈیکل ریلیف وغیرہ دینے کے کاموں سے رہتا ہے وہ ٹرسٹ کے دوسرے پہاڑوں پر پوری طرح توجہ نہیں دے سکتا پبلک ورکس کی توجہ تعمیرات کے کام پر مرکوز ہوتی ہے اسلئے اگر ہاؤسنگ کیلئے علیحدہ منسٹر نہ بنایا جائے تو کم سے کم اس محکمہ کو پبلک ورکس منسٹری کے سپرد کر دیا جائے تاکہ جلد سے جلد اس بات کی کوشش کیجاسکے کہ دہلی میں ہاؤسنگ کا مسئلہ مناسب طریق پر حل ہو جائے ہماری گورنمنٹ کے دل میں غریبوں کا درد ہے اور مڈل کلاس کے لوگوں کے ساتھ پوری ہمدردی ہے لیکن یہ ماننا پڑیگا کہ اگر اس ہمدردی کا کوئی عملی نتیجہ نہ نکلے تو وہ لوگ سوائے اسکے اور کچھ نہیں خیال کریں گے کہ یہ گورنمنٹ callous ہے اور پبلک کا کوئی خیال نہیں کرتی - میں تو یہاں تک کہلے کہائے تھا ہوں کہ ضرورت ہو تو گورنمنٹ نے جن لوگوں کے ہاتھ زمینوں بچھ ڈالی ہیں انکو بھی مناسب رقم دے کر واپس لے لے اور پھر اس پر مکانات بنوائے اور ماک کو معلوم ہو سکے کہ ہم نے اس وقت تک اس بارے میں پبلک کے لئے کیا کیا اور یہ بھی کہ جب ہم اگلے اجلاس میں بیٹھیں تو یہ دیکھ سکیں کہ واقعی کوئی Progress ہوئی ہے۔

(English translation of the above speech)

**Shri Deshbandhu Gupta:** (Delhi): Mr. Speaker, one of the Prime Ministers of England made the following remarks regarding housing:

"If any thing can afford the means of personal growth, it is the ownership of a house however small but one's own."

It is sad that so far as our Government is concerned all efforts have been made to dispossess persons of the few houses which they possess and no efforts are made to construct new houses. Sir, on previous occasions also I have frequently expressed my views regarding the housing problem before this House. At present the greatest difficulty in Delhi is about accommodation.

[Shri Deshbandhu Gupta]

immigrants from the Punjab, Sind and the Frontier Province who were millionaires and owned palaces and large properties are these days pining for even a single room and we can give no help to them. Such is the state of affairs that we can neither help them with money nor as friends. In spite of this our Government does not pay due attention to it. Earlier when this problem came before us I drew the attention of the House to the four thousand and seven hundred plots in Delhi of the Delhi Improvement Trust and which were sold at very high prices. No houses could so far be built on them. The main reason for this is that our Government has not so far given any attention towards the construction of houses. No efforts have been made to supply the building material. A few days back a meeting of a sub-committee of the provincial Rehabilitation Board of which I am also a member was held. In this meeting I told Sir Arthur Deen, Chairman of the Committee, that the new townships which we are building are merely for the satisfaction of our refugee brethren. The question is whether we can devise means to build some houses for them within the next three or four months. He said at that time that the Improvement Trust owned about sixteen hundred plots for which arrangements were complete to provide electricity, water and sewerage facilities and on which houses could be built. But the difficulty is that the Government has not so far tried to provide the building material. Sir, a committee was appointed by the Government in the May last to consider and review the method of allotment of land by the Improvement Trust. I was a member of that committee. At that time the committee recommended that the Government should appoint a committee of experts to devise means of providing building material, of substitutes of steel and cement and to make arrangement for bricks and also whether sun dried bricks would serve the purpose? It is a matter of regret that in spite of the fact that so much time has elapsed no practical measures are being adopted. There are 40 crores of bricks with the Government which were manufactured in war time. This committee recommended that these bricks be sold to the public at Rs. 15 per thousand so that houses could be built on the 4 to 5 thousand plots lying vacant at present. Many persons are prepared to build houses and when these houses are built Government can fix rent under the Rent Act. If desired these houses can be requisitioned also. In this way houses can be built and the Government will have to spend nothing and there will be no difficulty. We will have to admit that we have not attached due importance to the housing problem.\* Delhi Improvement trust was set up eleven years ago. During the year 1937 to 1948 land worth Rs. 1,38,27,945-11-6 have been sold by the Trust. During this period the Improvement Trust tried to realise the maximum possible price from the sale of land. As a result, the minimum average sale price current during the year 1937 shot up from Rs. 6-8 to Rs. 36-13 in the year 1948. In this way the average maximum price rose from Rs. 22 to Rs. 46. Under these circumstances, it will have to be admitted and the Government have no answer that we did not attach due importance to the housing problem. Until we give due importance to this we cannot solve the problems that are arising today. I will again submit that the Government should devote particular attention to this. I would like to know why the Government does not construct buildings on the plots in its possession. During the last Session when the housing problem was brought up for discussion, it was suggested by one of my learned friends Mr. Manu Subedar that a separate Ministry to deal with 'housing' should be constituted to consider the methods by which we can construct houses within a period of six months. But time has passed and Government has not taken any action to give practical effect to it. If we are really serious about this matter and want that all the evils arising out of the housing shortage in Delhi be remedied, then we shall have to take some strong and bold action. The sub-committee to which I have referred to had also made this recommendation

that Co-operative Societies should be encouraged and through the agency of such societies the middle class people should be provided with lands at a profit of only 10 to 15 per cent. to enable them to construct sufficient number of houses.

In conclusion, I would also like to draw attention towards the Department of Improvement Trust which is not under the Control of any of the Ministers. Constitutionally it is under the charge of the Ministry of Health, but in actual practice it has more to do with the Ministry of Works, Mines and Power. The Ministry of Health is primarily responsible for matters concerning the health and provision of medical relief etc. It cannot devote its full energies towards other spheres of the working of the Trust. The attention of the Public Works Department is concentrated on the construction work. Therefore, if no separate Ministry for Housing is set up, atleast this Department should be put under the charge of the Ministry of Works, so that steps could be taken at the earliest possible moment to solve the housing problem in Delhi in a proper way. Our Government feels for the poor and it has got full sympathy for the middle class people. But if this sympathy is not translated into action and some concrete results achieved, it will have to be admitted that the people will have no other course except to think that this Government is callous and does not care for the public. I am prepared to say even this that if a contingency arises, the Government should get back the lands by payment of reasonable amount to those to whom these have been sold and then make arrangements for the building of houses thereon. It could thus be made known to the country what we have done for the public in this respect and when we reassemble for the next session we may be able to observe that some progress has actually been made.

**Prof. Shibban Lal Saksena (U.P. General):** Sir, I support the motion of my Honourable friend Dr. Deshmukh about development of the mineral resources of the country. I shall invite the attention of the House to a debate held in this House on 12th March, 1945, when Dr. Ambedkar pointed out and frankly admitted that this country had until then no mineral policy at all. That a Government which ruled this country for over a century had almost to the very end no mineral policy, speaks volumes as to how it governed. Dr. Ambedkar also said towards the end of his speech:

"..... an all-pervasive and dynamic mineral policy would depend upon three circumstances. It would depend upon the industrial drive in the country. If there is industrialisation this country will undoubtedly have to undertake a more vigorous mineral policy than it has done in the past. Whether our mineral policy will be successful and will be used for the benefit of the many will also depend upon two other considerations, namely, the constitutional position, the distribution of authority between the provinces and the centre and the rule the State is allowed to play in this matter."

So according to him it would depend on three things, namely, industrial policy, the constitutional position and the relation between the States, the provinces and the centre. Now all these three conditions are fulfilled. We are out to have a big industrial policy and to make our country one of the biggest industrial countries in the world. Only the other day we had an Industrial Conference where we had plans for a permanent industrial policy, and I hope that very soon we shall have an announcement, as was promised the other day, by the Industries Minister as regards our future industrial policy. We are also now free and can undertake any measures we like. But up till now the Honourable Minister for Works, Mines and Power—who I know is very enthusiastic and active about it—has not announced his mineral policy. I got hold of a few reports in the library but have not been able to find any comprehensive plan which can assure me that very soon we will have a real mineral policy which will make us one of the greatest nations of the world so far as minerals are concerned. I tried to find out some figures as regards

[Mr. Subhan Lal Saksena.]

other countries. The principal minerals these days are coal, iron and steel, oil, copper, lead, tin, zinc and rubber.

I was surprised to find that in the bulletin published by the United Nations—in at least six of these minerals—India found no place. In Copper, lead, zinc we are almost nil. In others we have a very backward position. In fact I compared figures for October 1947 and I found that our total production of coal in 1937 was 1,891 thousand metric tons and in 1947, 62,290 thousand metric tons, whereas the U. K. had 20,297 thousand metric tons in 1937 and it has the same amount now. So we are less than one-tenth of the U.K. and about 1/40th of the United States in 1937 and 1/80th now. Even Japan, which in 1937 had double our production has now more than what we produce, even after defeat. And Germany which had about eight times our production in 1937 has now about five times our total production. France too has about double our production of coal.

Similarly in petroleum, we have no position in the world, whereas other countries have very huge amounts.

Similarly about pig iron. We had 181 thousand metric tons in 1937 and now we have 182 thousand metric tons. Compared to this, the U.K. has 718 thousand metric tons—about six times our production.

These are the chief minerals on which depends the wealth of a nation. If we compare the progress made by Russia you will be surprised how that country has progressed. I will read out some figures. About Iron: In 1935 Russia produced 26,845 thousand metric tons and this was about 100 times what it produced in 1913 and 50 times what it produced in 1928. Similarly as the question of other metals. As time is short, I would only draw the attention of the Honourable Minister to compare the figures of the various countries and especially see the progress which has been made by Russia in a short time.

Our Honourable Minister has been in office only about six months and I cannot blame him for all the sins of the past Government. He was one of the fighters who used to attack their policy, but now that he is in office himself, I think he will see that the same charge is not levelled against him, and we shall have a mineral policy worthy of our great country, so that in a very short time we may come to be one of the great countries of the world.

No industrial policy can be carried out without mineral resources. Even now the Geological Survey of India is not complete. I was reading just now and found that a very small portion of India has been geologically surveyed. I want that the Honourable Minister should promise that he shall have a plan for a proper geological survey of India, so that when we try to take our place among the nations of the world, we may not be second to anyone.

As a matter of fact, the last Russian plan has given figures of production of steel, iron and coal which are astronomical. It is well known that the position of any country depends on the production of iron, coal, steel and power. I hope that in the hands of the Minister that we now have we shall not lag behind and we shall make use of the time we have in a manner that we can very soon come to the stage into which we should be able to come.

I sometimes feel that we are not going with the speed that we should go. I see that up till 1945 we had no mineral policy. Our Minister will see to it that we make up this leeway and come soon among the front rankers. I know transport will be a difficulty which will hamper production of coal. But I hope all these things will be met and progress made.

With these words I support the out motion.

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

*The Assembly re-assembled after Lunch at Half Past Two of the Clock, Mr. Speaker (The Honourable Mr. G. V. Mavalankar) in the Chair.*

**Mr. Naziruddin Ahmad** (West Bengal: Muslim): Sir, three out motions have been moved relating to the activities or rather the inactivities of the Government with regard to water power, building programme and the development of mineral resources. The speeches make it absolutely clear that Honourable Members are convinced that with regard to development of water power the Government are not very active. With regard to the building programme it is clear that the Government has been absolutely inactive. And with regard to mineral resources nothing whatsoever has been done. It will perhaps be said by the Honourable Minister that he is occupied with a large number of things. But I think the real position is just like the guard who was engaged by a rich man to defend him and his family in case of danger. The guard was fully armed with a shield and a sword. Robbers came into the man's house one night and beat him and his family and robbed him of all but the guard did not do anything. The rich man asked him "why did you not fight the robbers? I engaged you to fight robbers". "What could I do?" replied the Pahlwan "In one hand I had the sword and in the other I had the shield. Both my hands were thus engaged. With what hand could I fight? I have no third hand." The Honourable Minister will perhaps say "In one hand I have enormous resources, untold money"—the taxpayer has never grudged giving them grants.—"In the other hand I have ample resources, ample staff. There is money in one hand and there is staff in the other. Both of my hands are engaged. With what hand can I fight? I have not a third hand." This is perhaps the joke of the situation.

With regard to the development of water power and mineral resources the only mineral activity we find is that there is provision for mineral waters at railway stations and in restaurants. This is perhaps the only mineral activity of the Government. As the Honourable Members who have moved the motions are going to withdraw their motions. I think I should request them in anticipation of the Honourable Minister's reply to withdraw them because the reply that is going to be given would be completely satisfactory.

In fact, the question of activities brings to my mind another story. A school master explained to a boy what is immovable property. After the lecture he asked the boy to give him an example of immovable property. The boy replied that a lame man was an immovable property, because he could not move. Considering their inactivity, probably the Government are to be considered akin to immovable property. It cannot move. It can talk, it can deliver long speeches and make wonderful promises but with regard to activities it is an immovable property.

**Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar** (Madras: General): Sir, there are a number of subjects entrusted to the Honourable Minister. You will find from that how busy he must be and how overworked he and his establishment must be. There are three things under his charge. Works alone, as has been said by our friend Mr. Deshbandhu Gupta, could occupy all his time and attention. We are in need of buildings and the refugee problem has added to the want. That alone can occupy and make any Minister mad.

[Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar.]

The next subject is Mines and Power. The mineral resources of this country have not yet been exploited. Thanks to the British Government they have at least left the minerals for us as also the water power. That is a department which will occupy all the attention of a Minister. So far as power is concerned it is increasingly necessary. We are living in an age where electricity rules the world. Therefore if the Minister has not been able to rise to the expectations that were entertained of him, with all his knowledge and capacity, it only means that none other can possibly do better.

Instead of being critical I would like to point out that in some respects the administration can be improved and better results achieved. We all agree that water is necessary for irrigation and in view of the latest developments water is also necessary for production of power. My Honourable friend Mr. Gadgil is the successor of the old Bhagirath. I find from the *Puranas* that Bhagiratha must have been a very great engineer who thought of diverting all the rivers whose water flowed on the other side of the Himalayas. While he was digging a channel somehow the water went into a pit, that is Shiva's *Jatajuta*. Thereafter once again, he seems to have after a number of years ultimately dug a canal but his ancestors had already dug a portion in East Bengal and connected it with the sea, so that the water may flow straightaway. Instead of inundating the entire valley below, the plains of the Himalayas. That was a very arduous task that was undertaken. Now the Honourable Minister is trying to utilise this water by damming the Damodar, which is called the Damodar Valley Project—a multi-purpose project like the Tennessee Valley Scheme meant, for both irrigation as also for production of power. So far as money is concerned we are prepared to vote it, even though there may be a deficit budget. But the bottleneck seems to be man power. I have no doubt about the qualifications of the persons engaged: they are all engineers. C.W.I.N.C. is the organisation that has been established for drawing up the schemes, making surveys looking after the regulation and finalising the entire scheme. Though the engineer at the top is an engineer of repute, unfortunately he has not had experience in dam construction. That is the difficulty. No dams have been constructed in the Punjab till now or anywhere in the North. Dams were constructed only in the south. There are a number of dams—the Krishnaraja Sagar and Vani Vilas Sagar in Mysore, three dams in Bombay, one dam in the Nizam's territory, one dam in Madras and another dam is being sought to be constructed in Madras.

The Honourable Shri N. V. Gadgil: Altogether six?

Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: Altogether eight. They are all in the southern part of India.

An Honourable Member: What are the heights of these dams?

Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: They are 190 feet, 115 ft., 176 ft., 190 ft., 270 feet (the one at Bombay), 180 ft. and 142 ft. above bed level. The Honourable Minister will of course try to defend his staff. I want to remove any misapprehension. There is no question of opposition to his staff. We do want excellent men. Now, what is the difference between a barrage and a dam? Barrage is an obstruction put across a river for the purpose of diverting the flow, where there is a flow, for irrigation purposes. The height of the Sukkur barrage is only 18 feet above water level. Is a person who has built a hut to be put in charge of building a sky-scraper? That is my difficulty. I have the greatest regard for the engineers in the Honourable Minister's Department but not one of them has ever been in charge of constructing a single dam. If the Honourable Minister says "Yes", I will request my friends to withdraw their out motions—even otherwise they will withdraw them. There is no question of opposition because we are wings of the same Government. I am only anxious to see that proper men are appointed for



this job. An electrical engineer, for instance, will not be useful where there is some mechanical engineering work or a mechanical engineer in bridge engineering and so on and so forth. Likewise, the Chairman of the C.W.I.N.C.,—he will admit,—has not directly been in charge of any dam construction. We are going to spend, not 2, 3 or 4 crores—4 crores was the maximum cost of those dams—but eighty, hundred and hundred and fifty crores. Are we to take risks in this matter and should we not have proper men? For the proper men the Honourable Minister looks to the west, to America. Why not we utilise the services of those engineers who were in charge of the dams in the south? His answer is that the Madras Government is not prepared to spare them. My fear is this. There is a kind of jealousy amongst engineers and technical men. (*An Honourable Member*: "Amongst lawyers too"). Yes, but the lawyers are paid by their clients. In this Department persons who have themselves been in charge of dam construction works might not be prepared to serve under one who has not had any such experience. If the Government is not able to carry on its business and enter into an agreement with them, they can see to it that some other man is chosen and put in charge. The Honourable Minister must see that those persons are given responsible positions, or at any rate see to it that this side of the Department is cut away from the other side, namely the C.W.I.N.C., and placed in sole charge of this work. I make this suggestion to the Honourable Minister.

Questions were put this morning regarding the manner of recruitment to the various Departments. A third-class M.Sc. has been advertised for, and some questions were put about this. Why are you going in for third-class M.A's when first-class M.A's are available? 'In certain circumstances ago may be ignored'—there are some catches in them. There is also an explanation for this. There may be persons who have had an experience of ten or five years, who were entertained a number of years ago and therefore thought they did not start service as first-class M.A's they may be useful now. But I ask the Honourable Minister to take care to see that persons in the guise of third-class M.A's having experience are not dumped into this and first-class candidates overlooked. It can be used both ways: experienced men may be brought in or good men may be avoided. The Honourable Minister is quite alert I am sure; he was only sitting by our side till recently; he is a pucca commoner; I have great regard for him; he is sure to be careful about this matter; he will count the rupee, anna and even pie as his own and take care to see that no wastage ever occurs.

There are a number of other bottlenecks. Cement may be a bottleneck. I suggest that a number of cement factories must be established by the state itself. These are the ways in which the construction can be helped. Even for the purpose of survey there was one American expert by name Mr. Savage. He was here on a contract basis on a salary of about Rs. 4,000 per month. But after the contract was over, finding that there was a paucity of men, he wanted to go away and demanded Rs. 10,000 a month if he was required to stay on. Instead of wasting Rs. 10,000 a month over such a person, let us have a pool of officers, give them an attractive salary, even Rs. 5,000 a month for a short term contract—a small organisation of all the engineers who had anything to do with dam construction—and let the work be entrusted to them. That is what I would suggest to the Honourable Minister.

The other allegations made are not proper. I have heard from the Honourable Minister that though a number of engineers came from one Province that Province unfortunately had no dams, that they have all been sent to other departments and that so far as dam construction is concerned only a few have been retained on account of their expert knowledge with regard to a dam or otherwise. I am sure he will prune the establishment and try to exact the greatest amount of work.

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I would say a word about the Research Institute at Poona. It was intended to be the biggest of the research institutes. I cannot pretend to be more interested in Poona than my honourable friend who comes from that place. But it is not a question of local or provincial patriotism. The Poona institute was intended to be a first class research institute. Let us not separate portions from that institute and concentrate all headquarters at Delhi. They are small beginnings, but gradually they have a tendency to settle down at Delhi with the result that all the branches are sheared and the head alone remains. That is what I wish to say so far as the various research institutes are concerned. Delhi is not a first-class place for agriculture. The Institute of Agricultural Research might have been removed to some other place—like-wise research centres and institutes and so on. We did not concentrate on another aspect. It is close to the border land of another Dominion which is less than half an hour by aeroplane—we did not concentrate on this aspect. But there is a tendency to settle down everything at Delhi and I am sure my honourable friend would take care to see that by no disguise or by no device the Institute at Poona is disturbed.

Sir, a policy of building a number of houses must be undertaken. One million houses is the target in England for each year during a course of five years. They are having prefabricated houses. It was suggested that these hutments may be built. I am asking not for the rich but for the poorer section of the people. I suggest that a number of smaller houses must be built at an early date.

On the subject of minerals enough has been said. I may say that the Honourable Minister does not deserve all the criticism that has been levelled against him. He will certainly take action regarding the matters which have been brought to his notice.

As regards the establishment there is no question of any provincialism; I am not asking for the appointment of any particular persons; this is a matter requiring technical skill, and I am sure he will see to it that all the available technical skill is utilised for the purpose of building the various dams. There are so many projects, the Kosi project, the Bhakra project, the Mahanadi project: the Assam valley has to be exploited; and in the south a huge dam is thought of across the river Godavari—the Ramapadasagar project. These are projects which if constructed within five or seven or even ten years would remove the food scarcity for ever. I hope the Honourable the Minister will take the credit of doing this during his period of office.

**Shri Rohini Kumar Chaudhuri** (Assam: General): Mr. Speaker, I have great and unbounded faith in the Honourable Minister who has been in the course of this debate alternately pushed and embraced. My Honourable friend the Minister told me the other day "that he had nothing but goodwill and future for Assam". I hope he meant seriously what he said.

**Pandit Balkrishna Sharma** (U.P.: General): Is any Maharatta ever serious in what he says?

**Shri Rohini Kumar Chaudhuri**: It is very difficult to make out from what falls from the Honourable Minister's lips when and where he is serious. (Interruption).

**Mr. Speaker**: Order, order.

**Shri H. V. Kamath**: My friend Mr. Balkrishna Sharma said something about Marathas. Is it not a reflection on Maratha members of this House?

**Dr. B. Pattabhi Sitaramayya** (Madras: General): My friend only wants to give publicity about a remark which was unheard.

**Shri Rohini Kumar Chaudhuri**: My grievance is, Sir, that it is difficult to know when and where my Honourable friend the Minister is speaking seriously.

Taking him seriously, I congratulate him and I thank him for his sympathy for the province of Assam. My Honourable friend appreciates work, works a good deal, he has a mind to work and he has unlimited power to work also. So it is in the fitness of things that he should be in charge of Works, Mines and Power Ministry. But one thing, I am afraid, he has entirely ignored. That is the question of petrol supply in the country. I can assure him that the petrol wells are gradually getting dry in Digboi, the place from where the major portion of the supply in India is obtained. Honourable members of the House will have heard this morning the reply given by the Honourable the Prime Minister which also said that there was another oil test point in the original district of Sylhet, now in the district of Cachar. That is the B.O.C. oil test point. That has been already occupied by the forces of the East Bengal Government. They are very serious about it, and in spite of the fact that so many months have elapsed since the unauthorized occupation of the East Bengal Government took place, nothing has been done to recover that oil point so far. It appears that the rail force, which undoubtedly belongs to the Government of India, was overpowered by a handful of Eastern Pakistan forces and withdrew—so it appears from the press note of the Government of Assam—without any reference to their superior officers or to the Government of Assam. That shows, Sir, how indifferent and negligent we have been to the question of petrol supply in India, and in the course of questions put to the Honourable Minister about a week ago, when it was suggested that he should employ a large number of trained men to explore sources of petrol in India. It is well known how seriously the Pakistan Government has taken this matter. They have already employed about 13 American officers to go about and explore sources of petrol in Pakistan. So I think, Sir, we should do something very intensively and seriously with regard to this.

The next point to which I would like to draw the attention of the Honourable Minister is about the Bharali River scheme. I depend on his good wishes and assurances, but I find my province is entirely forgotten the next moment. The Damodar Valley Project has been taken in hand; other projects in Madras have been taken in hand; those who have been very vocal have got what they wanted. I, sitting on this side, get nothing. The "Bharali River" scheme has been in the air for a very long time and there was an idea of starting the work immediately. Vast areas of cultivable land have become practically waste on account of the scheme not being undertaken at an early date. There was one survey actually made and the work should have been started if the survey was correct. But now I hear—I do not know how far my information is correct—that that survey has gone for nothing, that the facts were entirely either inconclusive or wrong, and therefore, another survey is going to be made sometime next year. When the work actually will be started, heaven alone knows, and by the time the survey is completed, it is quite possible the whole project may be abandoned.

I would therefore appeal to the Honourable Minister to give a little attention to these matters which seem comparatively insignificant but which is a matter of great importance to a province which is in an undeveloped condition but on which great responsibility rests. The entire brunt of the last war was borne by Assam, and if what I heard from my Honourable friend Mr. Ananthasaynam Ayyangar is correct, namely that we are going to have a war very soon, and if what the war lord, Churchill, says is correct, we must have a war very soon, and if the Americans do not become our friends, Assam will become once more the battle front of India; and so it is all the more necessary for the Government of India at the present moment to give greater attention to that province, which serves as the eastern bastion not only against the other Pakistan provinces of India but also against Burma and China. We do not know who will be on the side of whom—China and Japan may be on the side of America; Burma may be on the side of Russia; we do not know where we stand. But

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whatever sides they may take, Assam will be the first gate to meet the enemy; and therefore, Sir, I particularly appeal to the Honourable Minister to give greater attention not only to the needs of the province of Assam, but also to the needs of India so far as this point is concerned.

**The Honourable Shri N. V. Gadgil:** Mr. Speaker, I am very much obliged to my Honourable friends for their speeches this morning and this afternoon. I do not look upon the cut motions as anything but an honest and constructive effort to help me in the proper discharge of my duties. I do not at the same time claim infallibility on my part, nor do I plead that the officers who are running this Ministry in all its various sections are infallible. I can assure all the Honourable Members who have participated in this debate that to the best of my knowledge, none of them will put his pride or personality above country's good, and if anyone even dares that, you rest assured that I, who am just one of you, will come down with a strong hand on him. Having said that, Sir, I shall take up the cut motions in the order in which they were moved. I will not confine myself to the mere technical points; but as I said, this is sort of constructive effort to help me and I will speak in that strain.

The Central Waterways, Irrigation, Navigation Commission organization was brought into existence in 1945. Knowing full well that floods occasionally cause great damage, the main objective of this organization was to devise schemes for flood control, and later on other objectives were added. This organization deals with the best utilisation of water power in this country. What is known as multi-purpose scheme aptly describes its activities—Irrigation, generation of power, fish culture, waterways—these are some of the objectives concerned by the multi-purpose schemes. This organization has not so much to do with the actual construction of any particular scheme as it has to do with planning. It has to adjudicate in matters in which there is a difference of opinion between province and province or province and state or state and state. And it has done so in the course of its brief career on more than two occasions. It supplies direction, it gives guidance, it gives advice and as in the case of the Mahanadi Project it has undertaken construction at the special request of the Provincial Government of Orissa.

I do not think there has been any criticism so far as the utility and the necessity of this Organisation are concerned. As far as I was able to see, much criticism was directed against the personnel, and particularly the Chairman of the Commission. I hold no brief for him, Sir, but he has been intimately associated with the work of this Organisation, and to his credit let it be said that he has produced the Mahanadi Valley Development and the Hirakud Dam project Report. How good it is, how detailed it is, how modern it is, if I were to say I may be misunderstood. I will just quote from a letter which Sir M. Visweswariah wrote to him when a copy of this was presented:

"The Report seems to be witty and modern and one of the finest publications of that class I have seen in India. I may be permitted to congratulate you on the production of such an able and comprehensive Report."

At the same time, I do not think that even the Chairman will claim infallibility. As has been stated by me during the Question Hour, this Ministry is perfectly conscious of the magnitude of Mahanadi Project and in fact projects of such kind, and it has been the policy of the Ministry to associate experts, both Indian and foreign, and to get the projects scrutinised by them—associate foreign experts and Indian experts wherever they are possible to be had. ~~throughout this construction~~ Sir I have already mentioned that an Expert Committee has been appointed which consists of Mr. Savage, Mr. Maclean and Sir M. Visweswariah.

My Honourable friend Mr. Ayyangar referred to construction of high dams. Now, it is so clear that such high dams are very rare; in the Bombay Presidency the last high dam that was built was completed in the year 1930. In the last 17 years there has been no irrigation work of a major type; even in Madras and Mysore the total had not gone beyond four. I do not enter into the technical aspect, whether the barrage and the high dam are fundamentally different, whether an engineer who is expert in one cannot by any effort on his part be an expert in the other. My own feeling as a common man is that if a man can do a certain thing on a small scale, given the opportunity he can do the same thing on a large scale. If it is a question of preparing tea in a small kettle, if you know the proportion of tea, sugar, water and milk.....

**Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar:** You can prepare coffee!

**The Honourable Shri N. V. Gadgil:** All right, it makes no difference. The real point at issue is whether it is a barrage or whether it is a high dam, what is required is a thorough knowledge of the soil of the river-bed.

**Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar:** The push and the pressure?

**The Honourable Shri N. V. Gadgil:** That is the main principle. An engineer who has had ample experience of barrage construction extending to over 25 years you will easily concede that it is possible for him to acquire this knowledge. With this there may not be absolute agreement but as I have said it is the policy of this Ministry to associate experts from all over this country as well as from foreign lands.

**Shri T. A. Ramalingam Chettiar** (Madras: General): May I tell the Honourable Minister, Sir, that there are at least four retired Chief Engineers available in Madras?

**An Honourable Member:** Let them come as advisers.

**The Honourable Shri N. V. Gadgil:** With respect to the suggestion which has been made by my friend Mr. Ayyangar and also reiterated by my friend Mr. Chettiar, I want to emphasise that there is not the slightest disinclination to have their services. In fact, when I received a sort of refusal from the Madras Government,—I have received a refusal from the Bombay Government and so far the East Punjab Government has not replied but it cannot be different—I am just trying to find out whether I cannot devise a plan of allowing these engineers of high talents to work in their respective Provinces and to come over occasionally to help us in the construction of these dams.

**Shri T. A. Ramalingam Chettiar:** I was talking of retired men in the construction of these dams.

**The Honourable Shri N. V. Gadgil:** A suggestion about the re-employment of retired engineers has been made. Two of them are already in the employ of the Madras Government, and one—if my information is correct—is already in the employ of the Mysore Government. I do not know about the fourth man, but any such suggestion is welcome to me and I can promise that it will receive my best and earnest consideration. I have said that nobody will put personal pride or prestige above country's good. When that assurance is given I hope that if any Indian, whether in the employ of any Provincial Government or who has retired from service, offers his talents, not only will it be welcomed but I say that I shall feel grateful to him.

A point has been made about the Research Stations. I may assure my Honourable friend Mr. Ayyangar that when this question came two years ago in the Standing Finance Committee, when I was to the right—not to the left of this House I had to fight hard in the Standing Finance Committee. The idea then was to close the whole business; I fought for it and I am glad to say that the Research that is carried on in the Khadakvasla Research Station is of a very high character. I also visited Pundi near Madras and I found that



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the quality of the research work carried on there also was of a very high character. As soon as I completed the visits, the first reaction of mine was that we could not progress in this line unless we strengthened our research front and it was at my initiative that the matter was taken up of having a subsidiary sort of station in Okhla.

There is no intention of concentrating in Delhi in order to benefit a particular Province or a particular section. I claim that every one of us is an Indian and everybody's talent must be at the service of the country. And if I ever find any narrow outlook, I shall either liberalise it or I shall go out. (Hear, hear). I feel that the office I occupy is a trust and if I abuse it, it is not only a discredit on me personally but it will be a discredit to the capacity of the whole Indian community as such. (Hear, hear).

As regards another smaller point which was introduced in the speech of my friend from Bengal, I assure him that I have been doing my best to bring about some understanding between the Government of Bihar and the Government of Bengal. I cannot in one single moment or with one single stroke of the pen wipe out the prejudices which have been existing for many long years, but if you trust me, without having recourse to anything like legislative action or administrative direction—for that is enduring which is based on goodwill and understanding—I shall do my best to see that that Mor Project which means a lot of prosperity to Bengal and also to Bihar is understood in its proper perspective and agreed to by the Government of Bihar and its people.

Sir, on this cut it is not necessary for me to dilate further but if Honourable Members will realise that only 6 per cent. of the water power available in India is used, they will understand how much work is ahead of us. A little less than 2 million kilowatts is all that we generate, both thermal and hydro-electric, and the total potential capacity is 40 million kilowatts. I am told. Fortunately for us, our rivers are so well situated that God has not been lopsided in generosity. Right from the Himalayan slopes up to Papanasam in the south, all the rivers are there, with their water resources challenging us to take advantage and turn this waste into wealth for the prosperity of this nation. I have no doubt that given the active co-operation of the members of this House, I can, within the next 20 years see—or my successor will see—that in every province two major schemes are completed, apart from smaller and minor schemes which the Provincial Governments concerned will look into. If that is done, then what I said on another occasion, will be true, namely, that this land will be worthy of its description in our national anthem: *Sujalam, supalam, malayja seethalam*.

We have to create a Central organisation for designing and planning. We are new in the line. We are moving cautiously. Instead of giving lakhs of rupees to foreign designers as was done in the case of the Bakhra Dam—it was absolutely necessary to do so in that case—we should have these things done here. We can just evolve an organisation in which Indian talent will have ample scope, and this will be a nucleus out of which a cadre will grow which will not only look after the construction of these various dams to be brought into being in a quarter of a century, but it will go on continuously. After all the schemes are completed, with the work of maintenance. That is my vision, Sir. I do not think there is anything further that I can say with respect to this cut motion.

The other cut motion referred to the policy of this Government in the matter of building, and my esteemed friend Mr. Sidhva—in whose speech I detected more excitement than eloquence,—made certain suggestions. I appreciate the sincerity with which he urged his viewpoint and I yield to none, not even to him, in doing my best to provide such accommodation as is possible within

the limits of the present availability of materials. In the first place, Sir, he has made this Ministry a scapegoat for all the ills of want of accommodation all over India. There let me tell him, Sir, that Government have not yet accepted the obligation of providing accommodation for everyone, whether he is a Government servant or not. I have no doubt there are certain Departments such as Transport, Posts and Telegraphs to a certain extent, Jail and Defence where accommodation is made available to every Government servant and that is absolutely necessary. Whether we should extend that principle to every Government servant is a matter which we must seriously think about. When our State is gradually becoming a sort of Social Service Corporation, when we are entering on every field of activity, leaving less and less for private enterprise, it only means that more and more people will become Government servants and correspondingly the obligation of the Government to provide accommodation must be accepted. It has been accepted so far as the industrial employees are concerned. It is an obligation which must be shared by the industry, by the State and by the labourers themselves. Now, if that is the objective, we will have to move on those lines.

**Shri T. A. Ramalingam Chettiar:** But no provision has been made for the contribution which the Government has to pay.

**The Honourable Shri N. V. Gadgil:** I am speaking generally. So far as the present position is concerned, this Ministry is concerned with making available such accommodation for its servants as it can. My friend Mr. Sidhva said that a certain number of quarters have been promised to be built. As a matter of fact, the construction was undertaken in the month of October, but owing to the disturbances and sudden shortage in materials supplied to this Department, some of the activities could not be pushed.

**Mr. B. K. Sidhva:** What was that material?

**The Honourable Shri N. V. Gadgil:** Everything. I will just point out some figures. I asked for 5,400 tons of steel; I got only 1,200 tons. I asked for 66,000 tons of cement; I got only 15,000 tons. I asked for 50,000 tons of coal; I got 2,500 tons. Timber I asked for 4 lakhs 92 thousand cubic feet; I just got one lakh.

**Mr. B. K. Sidhva:** What about bricks?

**The Honourable Shri N. V. Gadgil:** Bricks I have. I am not pleading this as an excuse. I am only giving the facts as they stand. And now I am proceeding with whatever material that is available, I have cut down the standard.

Then, Sir, reference has been made to open spaces. New Delhi was built in the 1911 durbar spirit. I cannot disclaim this inheritance. It has come to me, whether I wish it or not. But I will be failing in my duty, I will be failing in the ideology I preach, if I do not turn it into the ideology for which you and I try, and you will be glad to know, Sir, that it has been decided that most of these open spaces will disappear and the Mogal style and standard will give place to a style and standard in which simplicity and utility will be the watchwords.

**Shri T. A. Ramalingam Chettiar:** But when?

**An Honourable Member:** Do not ask him that!

**The Honourable Shri N. V. Gadgil:** A reference has been made about the location of clerks' quarters at Timarpur. I just want to bring to the notice of my Honourable friend Mr. Sidhva that there are offices in Old Delhi and the quarters at Timarpur are near to those offices. It is on this principle that quarters are built there. Out of the total of 3,350 quarters to be built, 2,000 are to be built in New Delhi; only 1,250 are to be built there and a few are to be built in Karol Bagh.

**Pandit Lakshmi Kanta Maitra** (West Bengal: General): You do not include Karol Bagh into New Delhi?

**Mr. Speaker:** I must remind Honourable Members that they must always address the Chair. This kind of constant interruptions and continuous sarcasm are not good.

**Pandit Lakshmi Kanta Maitra:** I apologise to you.

**The Honourable Shri N. V. Gadgil:** Now so far as responsibility of this Ministry is concerned for the housing of non-officials, I should make it quite clear that this Ministry has nothing to do with it.

**Mr. B. K. Sidhva:** You have joint responsibility?

**The Honourable Shri N. V. Gadgil:** The matter is not under this Ministry and whether such a thing is organizationally desirable or otherwise is another matter, but I can tell the Honourable Member this much that an effort has been made by me, so that everything connected with housing should be under one Department, whether it is mine or somebody else's.

Now, so far as the building material is concerned, there has been shortage in steel, apart from what is supplied to this Ministry and detailed figures were given in the Industrial Conference that was held a few weeks ago. It is needless to go into the causes which are responsible for this shortage; the existing industrial plant is not even working to its capacity, let alone consideration for its expansion. If the workers go on a strike or slow down work, if the merchants indulge in black marketing, if the officers, as has been described, occasionally put their legs on the table and read newspapers rather than look to their work, well, this is our society. We cannot blame anyone; an apple taken out of the box cannot be different from the apples in the box. I share that humiliation along with everyone of us. Therefore, the greatest responsibility on our part is that we must get out of this context of the past, both moral and psychological. That done, we would really raise ourselves to the requirements of freedom that we have won. It is our job; it is our country; it is our own houses that we have to build, and if we do in that spirit, I have not the slightest doubt that we can do the job. The problem is not insoluble—the problem is quite soluble. You will also realize that in the course of the last 6 months what difficulties after difficulties have come on our country. The moment I collect certain material, I am asked to divert it and the staff for strategical reasons to some place in the North, because the defence of the country is the highest priority. You know the number of refugees and if you ask me to accommodate 4 lakh and 50 thousand here in Delhi, no Minister can do that. The tendency has been towards urbanisation. The people have shifted to the towns in large numbers in the course of the 6 or 7 years and therefore, the problem of housing has become more and more acute. If, in course of the last 6 years, the population of Delhi and many other cities has increased 100 per cent, you cannot expect a 100 per cent increase in the houses even in 2 or 3 or 4 or 5 years. The timber that was exhausted in the war would have sufficed for houses for one generation. These are the factors which we ought to take into consideration. Whether we can build with other materials, whether we can cut down our standards or whether we should go back to the mud-hut standard, that is another matter, but if we decide that housing or accommodation is a national responsibility, is the responsibility of the Government of the day, then certainly we shall move on lines on which Western countries have moved. Reference was made to what has been done in England. It is not so easy as that. They have not been able to reach the target. There has been shortage of materials, shortage of skilled labour, and those factors which have worked to slow down progress in this country are also in evidence there. I agree with my Honourable friend, Mr.



**Deshbandhu Gupta** that requisitioning is not the solution. I have said that before. But in the emergency in which we all of us find ourselves requisitioning has got to be resorted to and I have done my level best and I can say that the hardships that necessarily follow such action has been reduced to the minimum; I have not deprived a single owner of his house and I have not thrown him on the streets, nor have I thrown any legal occupant or tenant on the street, and wherever it was necessary absolutely in the highest interests of the State, I have gone out of my way to provide alternate accommodation, howsoever meagre it may be. I am not able to give accommodation to every refugee but certainly I have made them appreciate my difficulties and although they leave displeased, they at least know that here was a man who understood their difficulties.

Sir, this housing problem is a big problem and it has got to be solved by the Provinces. If the Provinces are doing what has been described by my Honourable friend, Mr. Sidhva, I wish them God-speed. But from what little I know, they are up against the same difficulties which we are experiencing here.

**Mr. R. K. Sidhva:** Sir, may I say that the Bombay Government have issued a Press Note announcing a five year programme for building houses for 25,000 tenements; they have already laid the foundation-stone.

**The Honourable Shri N. V. Gadgil:** I wish them God-speed; I do not want to belittle it and I shall help them in whatever way I can, but I know that even in Bombay, cinema houses are being built, big hotels are being built and no steel is made available for smaller houses. So if you have to do this, you must enlist the help of the labourers, the good wishes of the merchants and the efficiency of your Government servants. Then alone it is possible and not otherwise.

**Prof. N. G. Ranga** (Madras: General): What is lacking here, Sir?

**The Honourable Shri N. V. Gadgil:** The only thing that is lacking here is the building material and nothing else. Out of the four things that are needed, steel, cement, timber and bricks, bricks are there, and steel as I just gave figures is not enough for my purpose, but with all that, it has now been decided to construct these 3,350 tenements within 15 months, and knowing the keen feeling of this House, I have no doubt that those who are responsible for the actual execution of the scheme will try to expedite the same.

The third cut, Sir, referred to the policy of this Government with respect to minerals.

**Shri Deshbandhu Gupta:** Before the Honourable Minister comes to the third cut, may I ask one question, will Government consider the desirability of handing over charge of this Department to one Ministry?

**The Honourable Shri N. V. Gadgil:** Well, that is a matter which the Prime Minister can settle. The Honourable Member was not here when I said that efforts were made to bring under one Department all matters relating to housing, but so far they have not been successful. Whether housing should be under one Department and whether that Department should be a fullfledged Ministry is a matter for the Prime Minister. There is nothing to prevent him from doing it, if he is convinced that it is conducive to greater efficiency.

Now, Sir, with respect to the last cut.

**Shri Ramnarayan Singh** (Bihar: General): What about so much bricks and land lying about in Delhi?

**Prof. H. G. Ranga:** Steel is not available in sufficient quantities.

**The Honourable Shri N. V. Gadgil:** I am prepared to give the land, but where are the building materials? As a matter of fact, my Honourable friend Shri Deshbandhu Gupta knows that plots were auctioned by the Improvement Trust and there have been a good deal of speculation; they passed from hand to hand at enhanced prices without bringing in even a small hut to anyone of us. It is not necessary for me to go into it in detail now. All I want to say is that it is not enough to give vacant lands; if that is so Government is quite prepared to give small plots of land or big plots of land, as they choose to have it, to housing societies and other building societies.

**Mr. R. K. Sidha:** The condition of sale in other provinces, for instance Bombay, is that when a plot is sold, the purchaser must build the house within two years or even eighteen months.

**Mr. Speaker:** I think we are departing from the best traditions of a debate. We must take the Honourable Minister seriously when he is speaking—there should not be inter-talks and jocular remarks. That takes out the seriousness of the whole debate. Nor should there be questions and counter-arguments. An occasional question is quite a different thing. But putting questions by way of cross-examination, or constant interruptions does not add to the usefulness of the debate and the time of the House is taken up unnecessarily. That is my reaction. I have been watching the debate and I must express my regret to the House that, I do not feel satisfied about the attitude which I see on the part of some members on this subject. If questions are raised seriously, then replies must also be heard equally seriously. That is the only request which I would like to make to the House in the interest of the debate. The Honourable Minister may now proceed.

**Pandit Lakshmi Kanta Maltra:** That is not doing justice to the House.

**Mr. Speaker:** That may be the view of some people; but I have been seeing the jokes and light-hearted remarks, and the members engaging themselves in private talks. It really pains me to have to say that, but I think it is my duty to say it.

**The Honourable Shri N. V. Gadgil:** Now, with regard to the last cut which was moved by my Honourable friend, Dr. Punjabrao Deshmukh in a telling manner, I wish to state that matters relating to this were considered by a Conference to which reference has been made by him. This Conference considered, among other things the attainment of mineral self-sufficiency, bringing under central control key minerals, regulation of the export of key minerals, better adjustment of mineral tariff, encouragement of local manufacture, revision of mining rules and a progressive change-over to State-ownership where economically feasible, of coal petroleum and basic metals. In the way of achieving these objectives there were some difficulties and those difficulties were pointed out. One of them was the lack of a proper organisation to co-ordinate mineral policy, meagre geological knowledge, paucity of trained mining engineers and geologists, non-acquisition of mineral rights by the State and lack of proper legislative power. Now, with respect to these impediments, I will only detail what has been done. So far as the central co-ordination of mineral development is concerned the recommendation of both the committee and the conference was the establishment of a Bureau of Mines. My Honourable friend will realise that when a recommendation is made and when it is sent up to the Ministry of Finance, in the past it would have been immediately accepted in anticipation of the sanction of the Standing Finance Committee. But in the new set-up, Sir, it has to go before the Standing Committee of the Department; when approved by the Standing Committee of the Department it has to go to the

Standing Finance Committee and when it is approved by the Standing Finance Committee, then it is approved by the Finance Ministry. That entails a good deal of delay. But I am glad to say, Sir, that all these hurdles are now over and you will find from the budget that provision has been made for this Bureau of Mines. This Bureau will do the co-ordination work and enunciation of policy.

Now, with respect to the second, the Geological Survey of India was only a small organisation. There were only 28 officers before the war. Now the number is 120 and only last month I had a scheme prepared in which there will be 100 per cent. increase in the course of the next three years.

Reference was made to Soviet Russia by my Honourable friend, Professor Shibbanlal Saksena. I understand there are 10,000 geologists working today in Russia. On that basis we must have at least about 15,000 geologists. How long it will take to get this 15,000, I do not know, but if I am able to increase our present number by 100 officers by the year 1951, I would consider it a modest achievement. The functions of the Geological Survey have been often misunderstood. It has nothing to do with the commercial aspect or utilisation of the minerals. It simply surveys and the results show the possibilities of geological resources to the general public. It is for the industrialists and financiers to make use of this knowledge for the industrial development of the country. That was the policy of the old Government. This Government has accepted the policy that it will not rest content with mere survey, but it will actively participate in working out some of these detailed schemes.

Secondly, Sir, there is another institution, called the School of Mines at Dhanbad. Honourable Members might be aware that very recently my Department put up a scheme for its expansion and it has been accepted and in addition to the 60 students, another 60 students will be taken every year. That also is a small beginning, no doubt, but a beginning all the same.

Then, Sir, the larger question of nationalisation is a question in which the States and provinces are also interested and this Ministry is in correspondence with the Provincial Governments as well as with the States, so that a definite policy on this aspect may soon be enunciated. This was made perfectly clear in the Industries Conference which was held a few weeks ago.

As regards legislative action, as things stand today "Mines" is a Provincial subject and it so often happens that the outlook of the Central Government does not accord with that of the Provincial Governments. Now it is not a matter which we can take out in the public and fight to the benefit of our critics, but if the Indian nation is to move on sound industrial lines, matters relating to mines and minerals cannot be entirely left to the provinces. If in the New Constitution some such provision is made then we can certainly have an all-India mineral policy but no policy can succeed unless there is provision made for its implementation. In the existing circumstances, Sir, we are thinking of soon introducing legislation in which we shall try to secure uniformity in some of the mining concession rules. But beyond that I do not think much can be done.

**Shri T. A. Ramalingam Chettiar:** What is the use of laying down the policy if the personnel required is not supplied?

**The Honourable Shri N. V. Gadgil:** The Central Government can only supply the personnel to the extent it has got them. As a matter of fact only in the course of the last four or five months demands have come from various provinces for quantitative surveys. Now to the extent to which it is possible to spare them without prejudice to the schemes which are already undertaken

[Shri N. V. Gadgil]

we have helped the Provincial Governments. But if the Provincial Governments themselves try to have their own schools and colleges I do not think the Central Government will stand in their way.

**Shri T. A. Ramalingam Chettiar:** But that will take years.

**The Honourable Shri N. V. Gadgil:** Yes. Honourable Members will realise that the Government that was in power six months ago had a different outlook: it was not very keen. And if today we have a different policy we cannot implement it all too soon; it will take a pretty long time. But you will agree that a definite step and a step in the right direction has been taken.

**Prof. Shibban Lal Saksena:** Is there any scheme for training of personnel?

**The Honourable Shri N. V. Gadgil:** Yes, Sir. As stated by me, the School at Dhanbad will have sixty more students. So far as the staff in the Geological Survey of India is concerned, I have already indicated the lines on which it is proposed to move. Also it is proposed to send some scholars outside.

**Shri Ramnarayan Singh:** At Dhanbad there is only a School; will it be raised to the status of a college?

**Mr. Speaker:** I will invite the Honourable Member's attention to his time limit.

**The Honourable Shri N. V. Gadgil:** I am finishing, Sir. All I have to say is that you do not expect this Government, with all its inheritance to its credit or discredit, to turn the whole thing immediately into what you want it to be. You must give this Government some time; and any man, however eloquent and howsoever earnest he may be, can only mint out words but not actual deeds.

Sir, I will again end by saying that I look upon the speeches that have been made as a contribution and a constructive effort to help the Ministry to see its schemes materialise in the shortest possible time.

**Shri Ramnarayan Singh:** May I know what is being done in the execution of the Damodar Valley Scheme?

**The Honourable Shri N. V. Gadgil:** The Corporation will be established and before the 1st April the members will be appointed.

**Shri Ramnarayan Singh:** Has the site also been selected?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, order, there will be no further questions.

**Shri Mihir Lal Chattopadhyay:** Sir, I beg leave to withdraw my cut motion.

**Mr. Speaker:** Has the Honourable Member leave of the House to withdraw his cut motion?

The cut motion was by leave of the Assembly withdrawn.

**Mr. R. K. Sathya:** Sir, I beg leave to withdraw my cut motion.

**Mr. Speaker:** Has the Honourable Member leave of the House to withdraw his cut motion?

The cut motion was by leave of the Assembly withdrawn.

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** Sir, I beg leave of the House to withdraw my cut motion.

**Mr. Speaker:** Has the Honourable Member leave of the House to withdraw his cut motion?

The cut motion was, by leave of the Assembly, withdrawn.

#### DEMAND NO. 16—MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

##### *Adult Education*

**Shri R. R. Diwakar** (Bombay: General): Sir, I move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Education' be reduced by Rs. 100."

**Mr. Speaker:** Cut motion moved:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Education' be reduced by Rs. 100."

**Shri H. V. Kamath** (C. P. and Berar: General): Sir, on a point of order, in view of the statement of policy of the Education Ministry which has already been placed in our hands and which shows that the Honourable Minister has listened with great interest to the speeches made by Honourable Members, what is the need at all for moving these cut motions and making speeches?

**Mr. Speaker:** The point of order illustrates what I said, that there seems to be some lack of seriousness about the business in the House. Obviously there is no point of order in what the Honourable Member has stated. The Honourable Minister knows from his knowledge of what he has heard till now, what the Honourable Members are going to say and what they have in mind. The document is a statement of policy, as the Honourable Member will be pleased to see; and except the introductory remarks saying that he has heard the speeches, there is nothing in it, which could be found fault with.

**Shri H. V. Kamath:** But does it not render the proceedings unreal?

**Mr. Speaker:** No, the raising of such a point of order makes it unreal.

##### *Provision for increased Facilities for Technical Training*

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** Sir, I move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Education' be reduced by Rs. 100."

**Mr. Speaker:** Cut motion moved:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Education' be reduced by Rs. 100."

#### DEMAND NO. 50—EDUCATION

##### *Policy re Grant to Universities*

**Shrimati Hansa Mehta** (Bombay: General): Sir, I move:

"That the demand under the head 'Education' be reduced by Rs. 100."

**Mr. Speaker:** Cut motion moved:

"That the demand under the head 'Education' be reduced by Rs. 100."

##### *Policy re Admission of Students in Universities on Communal Basis.*

**Shrimati G. Durgabai** (Madras: General): Sir, I move:

"That the demand under the head 'Education' be reduced by Rs. 100."

**Mr. Speaker:** Cut motion moved:

"That the demand under the head 'Education' be reduced by Rs. 100."

## DEMAND NO. 16—MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

*Need for a Uniform Language Policy*

**Mr. Frank E. Anthony (C. P. and Berar: General):** Sir, I move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Education' be reduced by Rs. 100."

**Mr. Speaker:** Cut motion moved:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Education' be reduced by Rs. 100."

**Shri R. R. Diwakar:** May I know how long I will be allowed for my speech?

**Mr. Speaker:** That is a little difficult to say. There are five cut motions and the Minister has twenty minutes for his reply. That works out to ten minutes each.

**Pandit Balkrishna Sharma:** I wish to point out that Mr. Anthony will be speaking and he is going to discuss a subject which may be a very thorny subject for some of the members here.

**Prof. N. G. Ranga:** In view of the fact that there are five cut motions and other members may care to speak, the House could sit till 5-30 P.M.

**Mr. Speaker:** I already stated yesterday that, this is an arrangement which members have arrived at by agreement and therefore I would not try to exercise any of my powers or rights in this matter. I, however, express a disinclination to sit later than 5 P.M. I also suggested yesterday that members may consider the desirability of doing away with their arrangement of having a department discussed only for 1½ hours. If they propose to do so let them agree on one motion, or at the most two cut motions. A large number of cut motions create these kinds of difficulties.

**Shrimati Amma Swaminadhan (Madras: General):** I would like to say that I do not wish to speak, though I gave my name as one of the speakers: and for a matter of this kind, I think that five minutes is far too short for Mr. Diwakar and so I give up my time to him.

**Mr. Speaker:** There is no question of a member giving up his or her time. Let us take ten minutes as the time for each speaker.

**Shri R. R. Diwakar:** I make some apologies in the beginning for not being able to speak in Hindusthani which I would have very much liked, since the Honourable Minister for Education especially has made a standard so to say, by insisting upon speaking in Hindusthani, which is the natural, proper and national language of our country.

While I move this cut motion, I do realise that Education is a provincial subject and there are limitations as to what can and cannot be done, and what can and cannot be taken up by the Education Minister in the Centre. But I think that since the Education Ministers in the different provinces are absorbed and engulfed in their own educational programmes, the Education Department in the Centre can very well act as one which can stand at a higher level and have an overall picture of education throughout the country.

[At this stage Mr. Speaker vacated the Chair, which was then occupied by Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava (one of the Panel of Chairmen)].

The Education Department in the Centre can take a better national view and have a more integral outlook on education than the provinces concerned. From that point of view possibly, research and education, co-ordination of work in the provinces and initiation of new schemes would be the best three functions that can be performed by the Central Department of Education.

As I have taken up one subject, adult education, in the very beginning I would like to make it very clear that many times adult literacy and adult education are confused, which I really want to emphasize. The word adult education has been used in the cut motion simply because it may not sound that something strange has been put in. Really speaking, what I want to move and bring to the notice of the House and of the Ministry is the extreme necessity of taking up a big programme of mass education for citizenship in India. I have had conversations with certain provincial Ministers and some correspondents as well. What I found was that they over-emphasized adult literacy and adult education with mass education or what may be called social education for citizenship, and thus they spoke in terms of a long-term programme. What I insist on here is a short-term programme. It might be of five years, by which time we should be able to irrigate the whole of India with the new ideas that are necessary for the citizens to discharge their new responsibilities. I am speaking this in the context of free India. I am speaking this in the context of democracy on the widest possible basis. I am speaking this in the context of adult franchise which is going to be extended to every Indian who is above 21 years of age. Therefore, what I feel necessary is not only adult literacy or adult education or basic literacy education, which has its own place and has to go ahead, in addition to all that an all-out effort is necessary to see that in the country-side as well as in the cities all citizens get to know the elements of citizenship, their rights as well as their duties. It must be that someone may criticise that this is propaganda and not education. I beg to submit that there is a line which can clearly demarcate education from propaganda. I am speaking here of mass education and not of propaganda. Propaganda is really purposive and has certain immediate results in view, whereas I am speaking of mass education from the point of view of acquainting every citizen in India with the elements which he ought to know in order to exercise the rights of citizenship that he has become heir to now. Therefore I am putting forth these views before the House in order that not only the Central Government but also the Provincial Government may take up the question in right earnest and see within the next five years we reach almost every citizen in the whole of India. I know that some work has been done in this behalf. There was a small sub-committee appointed at the time of the Educational Conference held in January last. I know also that the Provinces and States have been approached in this regard. But even so I fear that the whole process might be very slow. In fact if the process is slow it loses the real importance which ought to be attached to a subject of that nature. Unfortunately in our country literacy is too low. At the highest computation it is 14·1 per cent. But when we are asked to define literacy, literacy consists in India in merely being able to sign our names and read a letter or write a letter. That is all the test of literacy in our country. This being the case, I think in the mass education that we visualise and which we feel we ought to convey to the citizens in the rural areas we will have to use the visual means of instruction as well as vocal means of instruction much more than the written word. Therefore what is needed is education through films, education through posters, education through *bhajan mandals* and such other indigenous means of education and I think the minimum elements which we ought to convey to our citizens should be of such a nature that every one of the citizens ought to feel that he is an integral part of the whole nation. In fact, ultimately the evils of communalism or even a lopsided provincialism are problems for education to tackle. We feel that something done temporarily can wipe away these evils but I take a different view altogether and I think most of the educationists will agree with me that these are matters for real education to tackle.

With these few words I move the cut motion on the demand for the Education Ministry.

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** Sir, the cut motion standing in my name is for the purpose of discussing the provision or lack of provision for increased facilities for technical training. The question is obviously one of supreme importance in view of our seriousness in industrialising our country and developing its trade and commerce. The much-maligned predecessors of the present Government had done quite an amount of spade work, so far as the educational progress of the country is concerned. They not only had appointed a committee and produced a report which goes by the name of Sargent Report but there were subsidiary committees which went into the question of providing technical training in all its details. I need hardly dwell upon either the importance of education much less on the importance of technical education. Everybody knows now that the fate of a country depends upon the education of its people and the future prospects of our country, nay I would say the very existence of a country, is likely to depend upon technical education. Technical education does not necessarily mean catering merely for the needs of commerce and industry but it has also very intimate connection with the various branches of scientific researches which every independent nation must undertake. I would like specifically refer by way of an example to atomic research. As I said in my morning speech, there appears to be war being waged on all our sides and this situation is likely to intensify. What is the remedy for us in order to achieve the progress that is necessary in maintaining our strength and our position among the independent countries of the world? It is largely based, if not entirely, on the provision we would be making for training in technical education and scientific researches. I am probably not very wrong in saying that the position is not quite satisfactory and the spade work that had been done has not been fully utilised and no real progress appears to have been made. We are still in the stage of merely considering and further considering this report or that some of these reports have recommended the establishment of definite institutions and there is hardly any dispute or disagreement or difference of opinion among the members of the various committees. And yet the fact remains that they have not been started and no beginning in the training that we all are looking forward to have been made. Our Government, as in other things, so in education appears to move compartmentally. For instance, I have two reports before me. One is the report of the Advisory Committee on Technical Training. This was produced by the Department of Labour. I do not know to what extent the Education Department holds itself responsible for providing this sort of training. In any case I have not seen anything coming out from the Education Department for furthering the objectives which have been detailed in this report.

Then there is the high-sounding report on the Development of Higher Technical Institutions in India. This was an interim report produced in the month of February, 1946 by a committee which goes by the name of the Sarkar Committee. This is a very ambitious plan, expenditure on which runs into crores. The mere acquisition of land is supposed to cost something like 25 to 30 lakhs. Every thing is on a big and colossal scale. But unfortunately this has also remained where it was although I find that we are likely to meet again—I being now a member of the Council for Technical Education—in the month of April at Bombay. I hope some real progress would be made at least then. But as yet no steps have been taken to provide greater facilities for either higher technical training or the other training which is to be under the Labour Department. I hope the Honourable Minister would be able to tell us what were the difficulties in not giving effect to these recommendations and as to when it will be possible for us to expect these institutions to be started. If we do not take time by the forelock and utilise all the facilities which exist it is likely that we will be lagging behind in this important respect. I do not want to take the time of the House and probably my time is likely to come to an end. I want



to finish before you ring the bell, Sir. All that I would like to wait for is an answer from the Honourable Minister telling us that these Reports have been fully considered that the recommendations contained there in are to be given effect to and that in the near future we will have established all these institutions, both those on a lower as well as the higher standard.

There is one thing more. I would like to tell the Honourable Minister that the Province from which I come, namely the Central Provinces and Berar, is regarded as a specially backward Province, especially in regard to offering facilities of education. The people of C. P. and Berar are in need of technical Central Provinces wherever my friends of the south are hoping to shift the institutions. I would be granted to the Central Government on behalf of the very capital of India,—if it were to consider this favourably and establish a Polytechnical Institute in my Province of Berar.

**Shrimati Hansa Mehta:** Mr. Chairman, Sir, the object of my cut is to raise the question of policy with regard to the distribution of grants to the Universities. There is a feeling that while some of the Universities get lavish grants there are others, equally deserving, which get nothing at all. It is necessary to have some basis for the distribution of grants. Government have reconstituted the University Grants Committee and their scope also is extended to cover the work of all Universities. But they have not clarified whether this Committee is to distribute the grants on the same basis on which they are distributing the grants to Central Universities and unless this is done it will be difficult for this Committee to function well. The point at issue is whether any distinction should be made between the Central Universities and the other Universities as far as the distribution of grants is concerned. My point is that there should be no distinction in this matter. It is true that education is a provincial subject. But the provincial revenues are mostly spent on primary education and secondary education, and the Universities get very meagre grants from Provincial Governments. It is therefore necessary for the Centre to help these Universities if at all we wish to keep up the high standard that they have so far maintained. Besides that, a Province which has more than one University within its boundaries will find it extremely difficult to help substantially all the Universities within its jurisdiction. That is another reason why the Centre should come to the help of the Provinces. There will be many more Universities in the future. Today there are twentyone altogether including Mysore, Travancore and Hyderabad. But in the near future Provinces may have more than one University. In a vast country like India this number is not very large. In America there are a number of Universities and if we wish to spread education we shall also have to have a number of Universities; and it will be for the Centre to come to the help of these Universities. Besides that, our education has to expand according to our national needs; and our national needs are considerable. The burden of this expansion will fall on the Universities. It will therefore be for the Centre to come to the help of these Universities. I know that the Centre do wish to help the Universities which help in their development schemes. But I also wish the Centre to give them general grants—not merely grants for specific purposes. With that view I have brought this cut.

There is also another point which I wish to raise at this stage and that is with regard to the two Central Universities, namely the Benares Hindu University and the Aligarh Muslim University. I think the time has come when we should change the names of these two Universities. They can no longer be called Hindu University and Muslim University. A University can specialise in, say, Hindu culture or Islamic culture; but for that reason it should not be called a Hindu University and a Muslim University. I hope that Government will bring in legislation to change the nomenclature of these two Universities. Sir, I move my cut motion.

**Shrimati G. Durgabai:** Mr. Chairman, the object of my cut is to discuss the policy of admission of students on caste and communal bases. My Honourable friend Mrs. Mehta has covered many important points which the Education Ministry ought to bear in mind in the administration of this all important subject. Education is the foundation of citizenship. The fact that huge masses of our people are denied this elementary right makes the task of our Education Minister very difficult. Viewed purely from this background of vast illiteracy prevailing in our country, the allotment made in the budget looks hopelessly small. Sometime ago the Honourable the Education Minister made an announcement in favour of conscription—conscription of University men and women—to serve as teachers before their degree are recognized. Today unfortunately our circumstances are such that we have to give precedence to conscription of men to strengthen home-guards.

I will now pass to the subject matter of my cut motion. My Honourable friends from the north can realize the horror of only one phase of communalism. If I am permitted to say so, the 'All-India Congress Committee which has recently declared a war on communalism has only this one phase in its mind, namely, the Hindu-Muslim problem. There is a greater monster in that part of the country which I have the honour to represent, that is, the Brahman Non-Brahman problem. Sir, I very much dislike to talk about this, but it is not only a matter affecting the distribution of patronage, that is one community getting more representation in the services than the other community. Sir, I do not really mind if people belonging to one community get more ration of foodstuffs than people belonging to the other community. But, Sir, as I have already said, in my province law recognizes patronage in the matter of the admission of students to the universities. Merit does not count, but community counts. Seats in arts, science, engineering, technology and other such colleges are allotted community-wise and heads of institutions are directed by law to overlook merit.

**Shri C. Subramaniam (Madras: General):** On a point of order, Sir. Are we in order in discussing this point, which is really a provincial matter, because that government is not represented here to answer these points. I do not know whether we will be in order in discussing a subject which is purely provincial on the floor of this House.

**Shrimati G. Durgabai:** There is a Grant here under Demand No. 50 A. 2. Demands to other Universities and non-Government Arts Colleges,—and for this a sum of Rs. 16,56,000 is allotted. Therefore the object, as I have already stated, of my cut motion is to criticize the policy of the Centre giving grants to universities which are still pursuing the policy of communalism in the matter of admission of students. Therefore I am absolutely within my rights when I am criticizing this policy. Right to education, Sir, as I have already said, is one of the most important and fundamental rights. Now if you, Sir, do not permit the free enjoyment of this right, then I should venture to say that it is not worth the paper on which it is written. I earnestly implore the Honourable the Education Minister not to ignore or brush it aside, and also resort to the common argument that this is a matter under the jurisdiction of the provincial government. I ask when a fundamental right like this is trampled upon, is it not the duty of the Central Government to step in and does it not reflect on this government if this government keeps dumb or mum or indifferent?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** Was it not because of the domination of a particular community that this law was passed?

**Mr. Chairman:** The Honourable Member should not interfere in the debate in this manner, which is more in the nature of an argument than a question.

**Shrimati G. Durgabai:** Sir, this Parliament has got a right to demand an assurance from the Government that it will take steps to prevent communalism from casting its pernicious shadow in the sphere of education.

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** No, no.

**Shrimati G. Durgabai:** I realise that economically backward communities do require encouragement, but that can be given in other forms. Under the guise of giving encouragement to backward communities, one section or one group of the community should not be deprived of this elementary right. Sir, it pains me very much to talk like this, but I should be failing in my duty if I am not courageous enough to speak about our own weaknesses. Sir, I request the Honourable Minister to enquire forthwith into these charges and set them right if they are found true. I say that this enquiry would serve a double purpose—it serves us in seeing that the education grants voted in this House are not ill-spent: also it helps us to gather material for the use of the Constituent Assembly which is shortly meeting to pass the Constitution.

Sir, there is one point more. The right to equal facilities for education is the most important among fundamental rights. The information which I am requesting the Honourable Minister to gather by the enquiry would help us and the Constituent Assembly to tighten up this fundamental right which is laid in the Constitution.

There is another point which I want to emphasize in this connection. We are building up a secular state. Theocracy or religion, caste or community or sect has absolutely no place. The universities and educational institutions of India have a vital role to play at this time in the future building up of this secular state. Therefore, Sir, great care should be taken to see that any university that still retains this policy of communalism does not get the benefit of these grants. My Honourable friend Mrs. Hansa Mehta has advocated that the grants should be given to all universities and the Centre should help to see that the universities in the provinces also get the grants. But I ask the Honourable Minister to see that before a grant is given to a particular university, he should make sure that the benefit of such a grant does not go to any university which follows, either directly or indirectly, the policy of communalism in the manner I have explained. Sir, I move.

**Mr. Frank R. Anthony:** Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have moved my cut motion to discuss the need of a uniform language policy because I feel very strongly that the Centre must now adopt a very definite role not only in giving advice or guidance to the provinces, but, if necessary, a very specific directive in order to secure uniformity in the matter of linguistic policies. The country is so vast, our language problems are so complex, that in this particular fluid and formative period I feel that the Centre dare not look on. If the Centre looks on and allow linguistic policies to develop in their own haphazard and unplanned way, then my own feeling is that inevitably sooner or later—perhaps sooner—we will reach a state of linguistic chaos in this country. And if chaos supervenes, it will be too late to retrace our footsteps, it will be too late to undo the harm because it will then be like trying to unscramble an scrambled egg. I feel, Sir, very definitely that in this particular matter the Centre should lay down a uniform plan for the evolution of our national language, and that in that uniform plan, in that overall picture of uniform evolution, we should also find an appropriate place for the respective provincial languages.

I know, Sir, that the problem is not an easy one. On the other hand it is a supremely difficult problem, but I feel that it is as vital as it is difficult. And it is a problem which requires the maximum not only of vision but of courage. I feel that in dealing with this problem the Central Government may come up against many susceptibilities, not the least being provincial susceptibilities. If necessary, in the interests of the country, these provincial and linguistic susceptibilities, however delicate, must be faced and overcome. It is, Sir, natural and inevitable that India must and will develop her own national language. It is likely, more than likely, that Hindi will be that language. The name does not matter; to my mind whether we call it Hindi or Hindustani it does not matter, but what does matter is that the approach should be both liberal and statesmanlike. I for one cannot understand the

[Mr. Frank R. Anthony]

Member U. P., Banaboli

reason for aggressive, intolerant, narrow policies in the matter of our national language. No one is going to take away India's independence. As I have said, we will and must evolve our national language, but it must be by an evolutionary and not by a revolutionary process. Those persons who are over impatient, who are overzealous, who seek to impose by revolutionary methods a national language on this country, will stultify their own purpose.

I ask those people who are overimpatient in this matter to remember that only ten crores out of a total population of thirty crores, are Hindi-speaking. Not only statesmanship but commonsense should prompt the Hindi-speaking people to insist on an evolutionary programme in this matter. It is only in that way, Sir, by planning in an evolutionary, liberal and statesmanlike way, that we can ultimately bring in and embrace the other two-thirds of the population. It is only in that way that we can ultimately ensure the growth of a healthy national language, that we can ensure the emergence of a real *lingua franca*.

That is why, Sir, I fail completely to understand aggressive and intolerant linguistic policies. I know that I am perhaps touching a raw spot in this matter, but I was very distressed—some friends here may say that I am unjust—but to be quite frank, I was more than disappointed—there are many who agree with me—I was more than disappointed with what I regard as the precipitate linguistic policies of certain Provinces such as the United Provinces. I have nothing but the very highest regard for its very capable Premier, a man of tremendous stature, and yet the policy of that Province in changing overnight its official language, has been definitely misunderstood apart from the harm that it has done to the minorities. The minorities for no fault of their own have, because of past policies when life in that Province had a bias in favour of Urdu, had to learn Urdu; overnight Hindi in the Devnagri script has been made the official language. In effect, the minorities have been blacked out overnight from all opportunities of service in the U.P.

That is not the only consequence. The worst consequence is what I regard as the repercussions to this precipitate language policy in the U.P. They may not be recognised, they may not be admitted, as repercussions, but what is happening in Bengal? Bengal has already plumped for Bengali as the official language. It is also likely to make Bengali the medium of instruction in the University. My friends from the South tell me quite plainly, without any equivocation, that they will resist any attempt to impose any ill-conceived, illiberal, precipitate linguistic policy on the South: if necessary, they will break away from the Indian Union.

**Prof. H. G. Ranga:** What is it you are saying?

**Mr. Frank R. Anthony:** Many people have told me this, and that is why I am arguing. I am pleading for a liberal statesmanlike attitude in this matter. Ten years, twenty years or even thirty years in the matter of a planned evolution of our national language is not going to place any serious obstacle in the way of national progress. Ten or twenty years are but a moment in the life of a nation. But precipitate linguistic policies on the part of certain sections, on the part of certain Provinces, are provoking retaliatory linguistic measures in other Provinces. What is happening? Some of my friends here may not agree with me, but these precipitate linguistic policies or definitely provoking and emphasising the cry for linguistic provinces. I am one of those who believe that if this cry is conceded it will do untold harm to the country. I refuse to believe that once India is divided up into water-tight linguistic and cultural compartments, she can ever achieve her goal of a real common nationality, that India can ever achieve real national integration.

Signs of that, Sir, are not wanting. When I visited Bengal recently I was told by Punjabis who have been uprooted from the Punjab, "We have lost our home in the Punjab, we felt we had found a home in Bengal. Now we have been severely disillusioned. By this cry of Bengal for Bengalis, this insistence on Bengali as the official language, this insistence on Bengali as the medium of instruction by all this insistence we Punjabis are being made to feel as aliens and strangers." When I broached this matter to some of my Bengali friends, one said, "We Bengalis are comparatively liberal; in Bihar we are not only insulted but assaulted." (Interruption). I have not got much time.

Sir, where is all this going to lead to? The signs are that these precipitate linguistic policies are provoking a new form of communalism, a new and a more dangerous form of communalism. (Interruption). My friends may not recognise it as Provincial and linguistic communalism. We have seen and experienced the bitterness of religious communalism. We are quite rightly in a state of revulsion against what we regard as religious communalism. But in its place today raising their heads are provincial and linguistic communalisms. And to my mind they will do infinitely more damage, they will be greater sources of evil than religious communalism. Because once provincial communalism, which is on the march today, is fostered by linguistic communalism, then inevitably, Sir, I can see this country not marching towards its goal of national integration, I can see this country disintegrating from top to bottom into water-tight linguistic, cultural and political enciaves.

That is the danger, as I see it, Sir, in allowing the different Provinces to plough lonely and unreal and unrelated linguistic furrows. I make an earnest appeal to the Honourable Minister in charge and to the Central Government to lay down some uniform plan in this matter. Let us be guided, Sir, by the example of other countries which have had to face this problem of a multiplicity of languages. What has happened in America? America did not allow its different States, its different blocks to pursue their own linguistic politics; it did not allow States with a predominance of Germans to set up German as the official language in that particular State; it did not allow a State with a predominance of Italians to establish Italian as the official language. No, Sir; while respecting the culture and the language of the different cultural groups, at the same time it evolved and implemented in a liberal way an overall policy calculated to evolve a real national language. I ask the Central Government to do precisely the same thing in India. It is a task requiring both vision and courage. Unless we set ourselves with urgency and courage in this task, repudiating if necessary the susceptibilities of Provinces, we cannot achieve real unity. Sir, I am amused sometimes by the element of irony and hypocrisy in the spectacle of some persons who, while they are violent opponents of religious communalism, are equally great exponents of provincial and linguistic communalism.

I will end on this note, Sir. I will ask the Government and the Minister in charge to take immediate and active measures to implement a uniform scheme for the evolution of a national language. Sir, I move:

**Mr. Chairman:** The Honourable Maulana Saheb.

**Pandit Hriday Nath Kunzru (U.P.: General):** Is there to be no discussion on this question?

**Mr. Chairman:** Yes, I have called on the Honourable Maulana Saheb to reply.

**Pandit Hriday Nath Kunzru:** It means that the discussion will be over as soon as the Movers of the various cut motions have spoken, and no further discussion shall be allowed.

**Mr. Chairman:** That was the arrangement. There is no more time.

**Pandit Harday Nath Khurda:** I do not know what is meant by "This was the arrangement". It may have been the arrangement made by the Congress Party. You cannot force it on everybody here. I do hope that it will not be attempted to do that day after day. This is a very important question and to ask those people who are not members of the Congress to keep quiet on so important an occasion is not fair.

**An Honourable Member:** The member who spoke last was not a member of the Congress Party.

**Mr. Chairman:** The Honourable Speaker has already pointed out that the number of our motions is very large and the time allotted is not so adequate and therefore it may be difficult for other Honourable Members to participate in the debate. According to agreement we had to confine the whole discussion to one and a quarter hours. According to that agreement we are proceeding. The Honourable Maulana Sahab.

آنریبل مولانا ابوالکلام آزاد : جناب ! وقت کی کسی کی اس وقت عام طور پر شکایت کی گئی ہے۔ میں بھی اس شکایت میں شریک ہوں لیکن بہر حال جو وقت ٹیبلرہا جا چکا ہے اب اس میں ردوبدل نہیں ہو سکتا۔ میں کوشش کروں گا کہ اس ٹیبلرہے وقت کے اندر جو کچھ کہہ سکتا ہوں کہوں۔ میں نے ایک پہلی آنریبل ممبر کی رٹائمنٹ کے لئے ہاؤس میں تقسیم کرا دیا ہے۔ اس سے وہ اندازہ کر سکیں گے کہ ایجوکیشن منسٹری کے کاموں کا پورا نقشہ کیا ہے اور نئے برس کے بجٹ میں جو گنجائش دہی گئی ہے وہ کاموں کو کہاں تک آگے بڑھا رہی ہے۔

پہلے کت موشن ایک نہایت ضروری معاملہ سے تعلق رکھتا ہے۔ پہلے ایڈولٹ ایجوکیشن سے۔ اس سلسلہ میں میرے آنریبل دوست نے جو کچھ کہا ہے مجھے اس کے مقصد سے پورا اتفاق ہے۔ اس میں کوئی شبہ نہیں کہ اس وقت جتنا ضروری ہمارے لئے بچوں کی تعلیم کا معاملہ ہے اتنا ہی ضروری بڑی عمر کے لوگوں کی تعلیم کا بھی معاملہ ہے۔ اور بڑی عمر کے لوگوں کی تعلیم کا مطلب صرف یہی نہیں ہے کہ انہیں لکھنا پڑھنا سکھا دیا جائے بلکہ اس سے کہیں زیادہ ہے۔ ہمارا فرض ہے کہ ہم ان کے دماغوں کو اونچا کرنے کے لئے دماغی تعلیم دیں، اور ان کے اندر ایسی سچے بوجھ پیدا کر دیں کہ وہ ایک قیمتی کھنک اسٹیمٹ اور سوشلٹی کی زندگی میں ہوں دلچسپی لے لے لگیں۔ ہم اپنی قومی زندگی کے کسی راستے میں یہی توجہ سے چل نہیں سکتے اگر ملک کے لوگوں کو بڑوں پر مشدد سچے بوجھ کے ساتھ ہمارا شانہ دہانے کے لئے تیار نہیں ہیں۔ بہر حال اس کام کے نہایت ضروری ہونے سے کسی کو انکار نہیں ہو سکتا۔ دیکھنا یہ ہے کہ اس بڑے کام کو ٹیبلرہے وقت کے اندر کونکر پورا کیا جا سکتا ہے۔

سنگل انٹروڈیو بورت نے سال ۳۳ میں جو رپورٹ پیش کی تھی، اس میں ایڈولٹ ایجوکیشن کی بھی ایک اسکیم دہی تھی۔ لیکن اس اسکیم کو سن میں لانے کے لئے کوئی کارروائی نہیں کی جاسکی۔ پہلے جنرل انکوائری کے

بعد جب از سرنو کانگریس منسٹریاں صوبوں میں قائم ہوئیں، تو انہوں نے اس طرف توجہ کی اور تھوڑا بہت کام ہونے لگا لیکن یہ جو کچھ ہوا بہت چھوٹے پیمانے پر ہوا جو کسی طرح بھی وقت کی پیاس کو بجھا نہیں سکتا۔ پچھلے سال جب میں نے اس منسٹری کا چارج لیا تو سب سے پہلا کام جو میرے سامنے آیا تھا وہ بھسک ایجوکیشن اور ایڈلٹ ایجوکیشن اسکیم کا تھا - لیکن ملک کی پولیٹیکل حالت ایسی ہو رہی تھی کہ اس طرح کے کاموں کے لئے وقت نہیں نکلا جا سکتا تھا - اور حکومت کی تمام قوت دوسری باتوں میں خرچ ہو رہی تھی - میں نے صوبوں کے ایجوکیشن منسٹروں اور یونیورسٹیوں کے نمائندوں کی کانفرنس بلانی چاہئی، لیکن دو مرتبہ تاریخ ٹھہرا کر پھر اُسے ملتوی کر دینا پڑا کیونکہ اُس کے حالات میں لوگ اکتھے نہیں ہو سکتے تھے - بالآخر کسی نہ کسی طرح پچھلی جنوری میں اسکا موقع نکلا اور ایجوکیشنل کانفرنس اور سنٹرل اڈوائزری بورڈ کے اجلاس ہوئے ان دونوں کے آگے میں نے ایڈلٹ ایجوکیشن کی ایک نئی اسکیم رکھی اور آپ کو معلوم ہے کہ دونوں نے اس سے اتفاق کیا - اڈوائزری بورڈ کی اسٹیڈنگ کمیٹی نے ایک سب کمیٹی اس غرض سے بنوائی تھی - اسکی رپورٹ بھی پھس ہوئی اور کسی قدر رد و بدل کے ساتھ اسے منظور کر لیا گیا - اب ہماری اسکیم تیار ہے - اسکی ایک شاخ لکھنے پڑھنے سے تعلق رکھتی ہے، دوسری عام دماغی تعلیم ہے - دماغی تعلیم میں زبانی لیکچروں کے ساتھ ریڈیو فلم، اور کچھ مہدائی قراما کے ماقرون طریقے بھی رکھے گئے ہیں، اور کوشش کی جا رہی ہے کہ انکا اچھا سے اچھا سامان تیار ہو جائے اسی غرض سے اس برس فلم ڈیپارٹمنٹ کے لئے ٹھیک رقم رکھی گئی ہے اور تعلیمی فلموں کی تیاری کا کام شروع کیا جا رہا ہے - منسٹری میں ایک خاص سیکشن بھی کھول دیا گیا ہے تاکہ ضروری لوگوں کی تیاری میں اس سے ہوا، مدد ملتی رہے۔ اڈوائزری بورڈ کی سب کمیٹی نے اس بات پر زور دیا تھا کہ اس تعلیم میں ٹیکنیکل تعلیم کا بھی کچھ حصہ رکھنا چاہئے کیونکہ بڑی عمر کے جن لوگوں کو تعلیم دی جائیگی، ان میں ہوا حصہ ایسے لوگوں کا ہوگا جو کسی نہ کسی پیشے اور کاریگری سے واسطہ رکھتے ہونگے - چنانچہ یہ بات بھی اسکیم میں اس شامل کر دی گئی ہے اور اس بارے میں صوبوں کی حکومتوں سے رائے مانگی گئی ہے - ہم اس اسکیم کو اس طرح چلانا چاہتے ہیں کہ بھسک ایجوکیشن کے اسکول ایڈلٹ ایجوکیشن کی تمام سرگرمیوں کا سہارا بنا دیئے جائیں، اور اس طرح تمام ملک میں ایک نئی دماغی آب و ہوا یعنی ولور ملکل پیدا کیا جا سکے -

یہاں تک میں نے جو کچھ آپ سے کہا، ایڈلٹ ایجوکیشن اسکیم کی کہانی تھی، لیکن اسکیم صرف کھڈ پر بنا دیئے سے نہیں چل جاتی - اسکے لئے سامان کی ضرورت ہے - اور سامان میں پہلا سوال درخت کا ہے - اس وقت تک سفلر

[ آنریبل مولانا ابوالکلام آزاد ]

گورنمنٹ کا جو تھلک اس بارے میں دھتا آیا ہے ، وہ آپ سب کو معاف ہے ۔ وہ ایک خاص حد تک بڑھتی ہے ، مگر اُس سے آگے راستہ نہیں پاتی ۔ میں چاہتا ہوں ، یہ پروائی حد بندی تو ہے اور نہ راستہ ہمارے سامنے لگے ۔ آئندہ برس کے بجٹ میں تعلیم کے لئے جتنی رقم رکھی گئی ہے ، میں چاہتا تھا کہ اس سے دوگنی رقم رکھی جاتی ۔ لیکن جب فائنلس منسٹری نے آنے والے برس کی رکارڈوں پر زور دیا تو مجھے مجبور ہو جانا پڑا ۔ پولیٹیکل حالات نے اور خاص کر پنجاب کی مصیبتوں نے ایک بہت بڑا بوجھ سنگل گورنمنٹ کے فائنلس پر اچانک ڈال دیا ہے ، اور اسکی وجہ سے ہدوں رک رک کر قدم اٹھانا پڑا ہے ۔ تاہم میں یہ بھی مانتا ہوں کہ وقت کا ہر کام انتظار کر سکتا ہے مگر تعاملاً انتظار نہیں کر سکتی ۔ ضروری ہے کہ کسی نہ کسی طرح اسکے لئے روپیہ کا انتظام کیا جائے ۔

۱۶ جنوری کی ایجوکیشنل کنفرنس کے سامنے جو سوالات آئے تھے ان میں ایک بلوائی سوال یہ بھی تھا ۔ کنفرنس نے ایک کمیٹی مقرر کی ہے کہ وہ اس بارے میں سوچ و چار کر کے اپنی گزارش پڑھ کرے ، مجھے اُمید ہے کہ جون تک اسکی گزارش گورنمنٹ کو مل جائے گی اور ہم تعلیم کے تمام ضروری کاموں کے لئے کافی روپیہ کا انتظام کر سکیں گے ۔

دوسرا کٹ موشن پڑھ کرے ہوئے آنریبل شری دیپن مہا نے ٹیکمپل ایجوکیشن کی ضرورت پر توجہ دلائی ہے ۔ میں انہیں بدین دلائل کا اس بارے میں گورنمنٹ کو کچھ کر سکتی تھی کر رہی ہے ، اور آئندہ برس کے بجٹ میں ہم نے تیزی کے ساتھ آگے بڑھنے کی کوشش کی ہے ۔ میں نے جو اسٹوڈنٹس ملٹ آنریبل ممبروں میں تقسیم کیا ہے ، اگر اس پر ایک نظر ڈال لی جانی تو غالباً اس کٹ موشن کی ضرورت باقی نہیں رہتی ۔ اس سلسلہ میں جو کچھ کیا گیا ہے ، میں اسے مختصر طور پر بیان کر دیتا ہوں :-

(۱) گورنمنٹ آف انڈیا فیصلہ کر چکی ہے کہ امریکن انسٹیٹیوٹ کے فہنگ پر چار ہائر ٹیکمپل انسٹیٹیوٹ ملک میں کھولے جائیں ۔ ان میں سے دو کا کلکتہ اور بمبئی کے آس پاس کھولا جاتا ہے بلایا تھا اور ان کا کام فوراً شروع کر دینا تھا ۔ فہنگ کے دیکھنے سے مجھے معلوم ہوا کہ دو برس سے یہ معاملہ چل رہا ہے لیکن ابھی تک نہ تو جگہ چلی گئی ہے ، اور نہ کام کے آگے بڑھنے کا راستہ کھلا ہے ۔ میں نے کوشش کی کہ یہ تھل دور کی جائے اور اسکیم کو جلد سے جلد عمل میں لایا جائے ۔ چنانچہ اب جگہ چن لی گئی ہے اور سٹاف کا انتظام کیا جا رہا ہے ۔ ان میں سے حر انسٹیٹیوٹ پر تین کروڑ روپیہ کیپٹل لیو ۳۳ لاکھ ریفرنگ خرچ ہوا اور تین ہزار طالب علم تعلیم پاس کرائے ۔ دو ہزار انڈرگریجویٹ اور ایک ہزار پوسٹ گریجویٹ ۔ پوری اسکیم دو سے تین برس کے اندر پوری ہو سکتی ۔



(۲) انڈین انسٹی ٹیوٹ آف سائنس بنگلور کے لئے چار برس کا قبولیت منت  
پلان منظور ہو چکا ہے اور پاور انجنیئرنگ ڈیپارٹمنٹ کھولا جا رہا ہے -

(۳) پولیٹیکنک انسٹی ٹیوٹ دہلی کے لئے تین برس کا قبولیت منت پلان  
منظور ہو چکا ہے اور کام شروع کیا جا رہا ہے -

(۴) آل انڈیا کونسل فار ٹیکنیکل ایجوکیشن نے سفارش کی تھی کہ ملک میں  
جو ٹیکنیکل انسٹی ٹیوٹ موجود ہیں انہیں سنٹر سے گرانٹ دی جائے - چنانچہ  
پانچ برس کے لئے یہ امداد منظور کی جا چکی ہے اور گرانٹ دی جا رہی ہے -

(۵) ہاؤس کو معلوم ہے کہ سنٹرل گورنمنٹ نے سنہ ۴۴ میں ایک اسکیم  
اورسز اسکالرشپ کی منظور کی تھی، اور باہر کے ملکوں میں ہندوستانی اسکالرز تعلیم  
کے لئے بھیجے جا رہے تھے - نئی گورنمنٹ نے جب چارج لیا تو اس نے محسوس کیا  
کہ یہ اسکیم ٹھیک طریقہ پر نہیں چلائی گئی ہے - پہلے اس بات کی کوشش  
کرنی تھی کہ جو انسٹی ٹیوشن ملک میں موجود ہیں، انہیں ترقی دے کر ایسا  
بنا دیا جائے کہ زیادہ اونچے درجے کی قابلیت کے آدمی وہاں تیار کئے جا سکیں -  
پھر اُس نقشہ کو سامنے رکھ کر سوچا تھا کہ کن کن سہجکت کے لئے ہمیں اسکالرز باہر  
کے ممالک میں بھیجنے چاہئیں اور پھر صرف انہیں سہجکت کے لئے اسکالرشپ  
دینے کا انتظام کرنا چاہئے تھا - چنانچہ اس مقصد کو سامنے رکھ کر گورنمنٹ نے ایک  
کہتی سائنٹفک مین پاور کمیٹی کے نام سے ہدائی تاکہ مالک کی فوری سائنٹفک  
ضرورتوں کی دیکھ بھال کر کے وہ ایک نقشہ بنائے اور بتائے کہ ان ضرورتوں کا انتظام  
جلد اور بہتر طریقہ پر کیونکر ہو سکتا ہے - اس کمیٹی کا کام ابھی جاری ہے لیکن اس نے  
انقرض رپورٹ پیش کر دی ہے - گورنمنٹ نے اس رپورٹ پر فوراً غور کیا اور اس کی اکثر  
سفارشیوں منظور کر لیں - ان سفارشوں میں اس بات پر زور دیا گیا تھا کہ ملک  
کی یونیورسٹیوں اور انسٹی ٹیوشنوں کو نئے سرے سے گرانٹ دیلی چاہئے تاکہ وہ  
سائنٹفک اور ٹیکنیکل سہجکتس کے لئے اپنی تعلیمی طاقت اور زیادہ بڑھائیں -  
اس برس سے یہ گرانٹ دینا ہم نے شروع کر دیا ہے اور تین سنٹرل یونیورسٹیوں کے لئے  
رقمیں رکھی گئی ہیں -

(۶) ان کاموں کے علاوہ عام طور پر بھی تمام صوبوں میں ٹیکنیکل تعلیم کا کام تیزی  
کے ساتھ آگے بڑھایا جا رہا ہے - سنٹرل گورنمنٹ نے اس سال پروانشل گورنمنٹوں  
کو اچھی رقمیں اس غرض سے دی ہیں کہ وہ اپنے اپنے قبولیت منت اسکیموں کو  
جلد عمل میں لائیں چنانچہ :

۲۹ - جونیور ٹیکنیکل انسٹی ٹیوشنز دی آرگنائزڈ کئے جا رہے ہیں اور انکی تعلیم کا  
دائرہ پھیلایا جا رہا ہے -

۳ - ٹیکنیکل ہائی اسکول کھولے جا رہے ہیں -

[آنریمبل مولانا ابوالکلام آزاد]

۱۱۔ سہ ماہیہ تکنیکل انسٹی ٹیوشنز -

۱۲۔ جونہر تکنیکل اسکول -

۳۸۔ تکنیکل ہائی اسکول -

۱۶۔ پولی ٹیکنکس -

۴۔ سہ ماہیہ تکنیکل انسٹی ٹیوشنز -

بہت جلد کام کرنے لگیں گے۔ یہ تمام شمار واعداد جنرل پوسٹ وار کونسلر مینٹ پلان سے تعلق رکھتے ہیں۔

تیسرا کٹ موافق پچھلے کرتے ہوئے آنریمبل مسٹر مہتا نے اس بات پر ہمیں دھیان دالیا ہے کہ یونیورسٹیوں کو مدد دینے کے لئے ابھی تک کوئی کام نہیں بلایا گیا ہے، اور ضروری ہے کہ اس بارے میں سنٹرل گورنمنٹ اپنی پالیسی صاف کر دے۔ میں سمجھتا ہوں کہ اس بارے میں اس طرح کا کوئی سوال پیدا نہیں ہوتا۔ پچھلی گورنمنٹ کا قہقہہ یہ تھا کہ وہ تین سنٹرل یونیورسٹیوں کے سوا اور کسی یونیورسٹی کو ڈاکوٹ گرانٹ نہیں دیتی تھی اور اتنی تین یونیورسٹیوں کو گرانٹ دینے کے لئے یونیورسٹی گرانٹ کمیٹی کے نام سے ایک کمیٹی بنائی گئی تھی۔ نئی گورنمنٹ نے محسوس کیا کہ اگر ہم چاہتے ہیں، تمام ملک کی تعلیمی سطح کو ایک ساتھ اُٹھاتا کریں تو ہمیں چاہیئے کہ سنٹرل گورنمنٹ کی امداد کا دائرہ صرف تین یونیورسٹیوں کی امداد ہی میں سنا ہوا نہ رکھیں۔ اسے زیادہ وسیع ہونے دیں۔ پہلی دوسری یونیورسٹیوں کو بھی مدد دینے کا دروازہ کھول دیں۔ چلتاچہ یہی بات سامنے رکھ کر یونیورسٹی گرانٹ کمیٹی نئے سڑے سے بنائی گئی ہے اور اس کے ترمیم آف ریفرنس اسے رکھ لئے ہیں جو اس نئی پالیسی کا پوری طرح ساتھ دیتے ہیں۔ مسٹری کے پاس اب جتنی بورڈولسٹیں آئینگی وہ یونیورسٹی گرانٹ کمیٹی کو بھیج دی جائیں گی، اور کمیٹی اس بارے میں جو سفارش کریگی اس پر گورنمنٹ پوری طرح توجہ دے گی۔

**Shrimati Hansa Mehta:** It is true that I mentioned in my speech also that the scope of the Grants Committee is extending, but on what basis are we to give grants to other Universities. It should be on the same basis as the Central Universities and there should be no distinction, that is what I said.

آنریمبل مولانا ابوالکلام آزاد : آنریمبل مسٹر مہتا اس کمیٹی کی ایک سہ ماہیہ اور

انہیں پورا موقعہ حاصل ہے کہ وہ کمیٹی کے اندر اس معاملہ پر غور و بحث کریں۔ میں نہیں کہہ سکتا کہ انہیں کہیں یہ خیال پیدا ہوا کہ اس سوال کو اٹھانے کے لئے اس کی

ضرورت ہے کہ ایک کٹ موافق ہاؤس کے سامنے رکھا جائے۔

انہوں نے اپنی تقریر میں کمپنل انسٹی ٹیوشنوں کا بھی حوالہ دیا ہے ، اور اسبات پر زور دیا ہے کہ علی گڑھ اور مدارس کی یونیورسٹیوں کے نام میں ۵۵ مسلم ۵۵ اور ۵۵ ہندو ۵۵ کی قید کیوں رکھی جائے - مجھے انکی رائے سے پورا اتفاق ہے - مجھے صرف اتفاق ہی نہیں ہے بلکہ میں اس خیال کو خوش آمدید کہتا ہوں - یعنی اسکا स्वाگت کرتا ہوں - مجھ سے زیادہ کوئی شخص اس بات سے خوش نہیں ہوگا کہ ان دونوں یونیورسٹیوں کے ناموں سے ۵۵ مسلم ۵۵ اور ۵۵ ہندو ۵۵ کا لفظ نکل دیا جائے - مگر یہ ظاہر ہے کہ دونوں یونیورسٹیوں کا ایکٹ اسی ہاؤس سے منظور ہوا ہے ، اور اب جب تک ان میں ترمیم نہیں کی جاتی ، ہم محض اپنی خواہش سے انہیں بدل نہیں دے سکتے -

ایک آنریبل ممبر : آپ خود کیوں املڈمنٹ نہ پھس کریں ؟

آنریبل مولانا ابولکلام آزاد : ہاں گورنمنٹ بھی پھس کر سکتی ہے اور ہاؤس کا کوئی آنریبل ممبر بھی پھس کر سکتا ہے بہر حال یہ تبدیلی ضرور ہونی چاہئے آنریبل شریعتی درگا بائی نے جس بات پر زور دیا ہے اُس سے بھی گورنمنٹ کو پورا اتفاق ہے - ہمارے قومی زندگی کے پھولنے پھلنے کے لئے اس سے زیادہ غلط بات کوئی نہیں ہو سکتی کہ تعلیم کے میدان میں قوم کی جن کمزوریاں ، مذہب ، اور کاسٹ کو ابھارا جائے اور ایسی حدود دیاں جائیں جن کی وجہ سے ایک جماعت دوسری جماعت سے اپنے کو الگ سمجھے - ہم جب اس بات کی مخالفت کرتے ہیں تو یقیناً ہمارا مطلب یہ نہیں ہوتا کہ بھگورتہ جماعتوں کو آگے بڑھانے کے لئے سہارے نہ دئے جائیں - انہیں زندگی کے ہر راستے میں سہارا دینا چاہئے اور بلا شبہ اُن کے لئے ایک بڑا ضروری راستہ تعلیم کا راستہ ہے - وہ اگر ترقی کے میدان میں دوسروں سے پیچھے رہ گئے ہیں ، تو یہ خود اُن کا قصور نہیں ہے - سوسائٹی کا قصور ہے ، اور ضروری ہے کہ جس سوسائٹی نے اُنہیں آج تک اپنے ساتھ چلنے نہیں دیا تھا ، وہی اُنہیں سہارا دے کر اب آگے بڑھائے - مثلاً ہمارے ہر بچہ بھائی ہیں - اگر ان کے لئے کسی انسٹی ٹیوشن میں کچھ سہولتیں دے دی جاتی ہیں تو یہ اس لئے نہیں کہا جاتا کہ اُنہیں دوسری جماعتوں پر کوئی خاص امتیاز دیا جاتا ہے ، بلکہ صرف اس لئے کہ اگر لسانہ کہا جائے تو اندیشہ ہے کہ وہ بالکل پیچھے جا رہے ہیں اور اپنے حصہ کے مطابق تعلیم نہیں پاسک رہے - بہر حال یہ تبدیلی ضرور ہونی چاہئے - گورنمنٹ کو اس سے پورا اتفاق ہے کہ تعلیم کے میدان میں کمزوریاں اور کاسٹ کی دل بدلیاں نہیں ہونی چاہئیں ، اور اس وقت تک صوبوں کی حکومتوں اور یونیورسٹیوں کا تھلک کچھ ہی کہیں نہ رہا ہو ، لیکن اب اُن سب کو سنٹرل گورنمنٹ کی نیشنل پالیسی کا ساتھ دینا چاہئے - آنریبل ممبر نے خاص طور پر مدارس کا حوالہ دیا ہے - میں نہیں کہہ سکتا کہ

[ آنریبل مولانا ابوالکلام آزاد ]

وہاں کی صورت حال تھیک تھیک کہا ہے - میں گورنمنٹ ممبران سے درخواست کروں گا اور پورے زور سے اس بات پر اسے توجہ دلاؤں گا -

آخری موشن آنریبل مسٹر فورنگ انتھونی کا تھا - انہوں نے اس بات پر توجہ دلائی ہے کہ زمان کے بارے میں گورنمنٹ کی ایک یونی فارم پالیسی ہونی چاہئے اور جو تبدیلی بھی کرنی چاہئے ، سوچ سمجھ کر اور آہستہ آہستہ کرنی چاہئے - اس طرح نہیں کرنا چاہئے کہ اچانک انگریزی کو ہٹا کر کوئی دوسری بھاشا رکھ دی جائے اس کی وجہ سے تعلیم کا اسٹینڈرڈ بھی ہل جائے اور لوگوں کو پریشانی بھی پھیلے آئے - میں انہیں دلاؤں گا کہ اس بارے میں گورنمنٹ کی پالیسی یہی ہے اور اس نے پروانچل گورنمنٹوں کے بھی یہی مشورہ دیا ہے کہ جو قدم اٹھائیں اچانک نہ اٹھائیں - دھورے دھورے اٹھائیں - آنریبل ممبر اس سے بے خبر نہ ہونگے کہ سب سے پہلی بار اس بارے میں جو آئی ہے ، وہ سہری ہی دولا تھی میں نے لوگوں کو سوجھایا کہ اس راستہ میں دوڑنے کی جگہ آہستہ چال سے چلنا مناسب ہوگا - میں نے پہلے پبلک سروس کمیشن آفیسر میں بہ رائے ظاہر کی کہ ہمیں زبان کی تبدیلی اس طرح کرنی چاہئے کہ پانچ برس کی مدت اس کے لئے رکھ دی جائے ، اور کو کام ابھی ہے شروع کر دیا جائے لیکن انگریزی زبان کو اس مدت کے اندر رکھ دیا جائے - سہری یہ رائے صرف تعلیم ہی کے لئے نہ تھی - تعلیم اور ایڈمنسٹریشن دونوں کے لئے تھی - پھر جب پچھلی جنوری میں سنٹرل ایڈوائزری بورڈ اور لیجوکیشنل کونفرنس کے اجلاس ہوئے تو ان کے سامنے بھی میں نے یہی رائے رکھی اور اس پر زور دیا کہ یہ تبدیلی ہمیں سمجھ بوجھ کر اور بتدریج کرنی چاہئے - میں خوش ہوں کہ سنٹرل ایڈوائزری بورڈ اور لیجوکیشنل کونفرنس دونوں نے اس رائے سے اتفاق کیا ، اور میں بھروسے کے ساتھ کہہ سکتا ہوں کہ گورنمنٹ آف انڈیا کی عام پالیسی بھی اس بارے میں یہی ہوگی - پس جہاں تک سنٹرل گورنمنٹ کا تعلق ہے ، ہم نے ایک صاف پالیسی ٹھہرا دی ہے ، - اب انگریزی کی جگہ قومی زبان کو یا قومی زبانوں کو مقدم آف انسٹر کشن ہونا ہے ، - لیکن ہم اس تبدیلی کو اچانک نہیں کر دیتے چاہتے - ایک کے بعد ایک قدم اٹھاتے ہوئے کرنا چاہتے ہیں اور پھر پلان ہمارے سامنے یہ ہے کہ پانچ برس کے اندر یہ تبدیلی عمل میں آئے ، اور اس طرح عمل میں آئے کہ چھ برس انگریزی کی ضرورت باقی نہ رہے -

مجھے تلے لکھوں میں اگر گورنمنٹ کی پالیسی کو ہم سمجھنا چاہیں ، تو اور اسے اس طرح بیان کر سکتے ہیں -

(۱) جہاں تک پرائمری اور سکندری درجہ کا تعلق ہے، یہ بات فیصل ہو چکی ہے کہ تعلیم مادری زبان کے ذریعہ ہونی چاہئے اور تمام صوبے اسے عمل میں لانے کی کوشش کر رہے ہیں۔

(۲) جہاں تک یونیورسٹی سطح کا تعلق ہے، یہ بات طے پا چکی ہے کہ آئینہ مہدیم آف انسٹرکشن انگریزی زبان نہیں دے سکتی، لیکن یہ تبدیلی ہمیں پانچ برس کے اندر اس طرح کرنی چاہئے کہ چھ برس انگریزی کی ضرورت باقی نہ رہے۔

زبان کے بارے میں گورنمنٹ کی پالیسی یہی ہے اور ایجوکیشنل کانفرنس میں صوبوں کے نمائندوں نے بھی اس سے اتفاق کیا ہے اس لئے میں سمجھتا ہوں، ایسا کہنا درست نہ ہوگا کہ زبان کے بارے میں گورنمنٹ کی کوئی یونی فارم پالیسی نہیں ہے۔

مسٹر آر۔ کے۔ سدھوا : آپ کی اجازت سے میں ایک زبات پوچھتی چاہتا ہوں، اور وزیر صاحب کو بجٹ قیماںڈ کے صفحہ ۱۰۲ کی طرف توجہ دلاتا ہوں اس میں ۲۳ ہزار پانچ سو کی رقم گرجوں کے لئے رکھی گئی ہے۔ گورنمنٹ کی طرف سے یہ بات کہی گئی تھی کہ آئینہ یہ رقم نہیں دی جاوے گی۔ میں معلوم کرنا چاہتا ہوں کہ کہوں اسے جاری رکھا گیا؟

آنریبل مولانا ابوالکلام آزاد : میں اس وقت آپکو اس کا جواب نہیں دے سکتا۔ کیونکہ اس ایٹم کے بارے میں ضروری تفصیلات میرے سامنے نہیں ہیں۔ میں صرف یہی کہہ سکتا ہوں کہ گرجوں کے لئے یہ رقم پہلے ہی دی جا رہی ہے اور اس کا تعلق ایک خاص فنڈ سے ہے۔

شری آر۔ آر دیواکر : یونیورسٹی میں نیشنل لیگنویج کیا ہوگی؟ اس کا جواب دے گیا۔

آنریبل مولانا ابوالکلام آزاد : اس کا جواب اس لئے نہیں دیا گیا کہ اس بارے میں ابھی تک کوئی فیصلہ نہیں کیا گیا ہے۔ جیسا کہ میں ابھی کہہ چکا ہوں، اس بات کا فیصلہ ہو چکا ہے کہ یونیورسٹی سطح میں بھی مہدیم آف انسٹرکشن ملکی زبان ہوگی، لیکن یہ ملکی زبان ایک ہی ہوگی، یا ایک سے زیادہ اسکا فیصلہ ابھی ہم نے نہیں کیا ہے، اور آل انڈیا ایجوکیشنل کانفرنس نے جسے میں نے پچھلی جنوری میں بلایا تھا اس غرض سے ایک کمیٹی بتھا دی ہے۔ ہمیں اس کمیٹی کی سفارش کا انتظار ہے۔

آنریبل ممبر نے یو۔ پی گورنمنٹ کے طرز عمل کا خاص طور سے ذکر کیا ہے۔ میں نہیں کہہ سکتا کہ ان کا اشارہ خاص طور پر کس معاملہ کی طرف ہے۔ پچھلے نومبر میں ایک پریس رپورٹ تھی کہ یو۔ پی گورنمنٹ نے سال

[مولانا ابوالکلام آزاد]

سے گورنمنٹ گزٹ انگریزی میں نکالنا بند کر دیگی - میں نے یو - پی کے پریسور سے اسی وقت خط و کتابت کی اور انہیں اس بات پر توجہ دلائی کہ اس طرح اچانک انگریزی کو ہٹا دینا درست نہ ہوگا - اس خط کے جواب میں انہوں نے مجھے اطمینان دلایا کہ اتنی گورنمنٹ اچانک تبدیلی کے حق میں نہیں ہے اور پبلک ہینڈبوسٹ کے افسر میں میں نے جو رائے ظاہر کی ہے اس سے انہیں پورا اتفاق ہے - چنانچہ یہ بات میرے علم میں آ چکی ہے کہ یو - پی گورنمنٹ کا گزٹ انگریزی میں بدستور نکل رہا ہے -

شری کے سلیٹھم : میں مولانا صاحب سے ایک بات معلوم کرنا چاہتا ہوں میں سمجھتا ہوں انکے انگلشی اسٹیٹمنٹ میں جو فارسی شعر نقل کیا گیا ہے شاید اس کا ترجمہ صحیح نہیں ہوا ہے

ترجمہ مولانا ابوالکلام آزاد - ترجمہ غلط نہیں ہے لیکن اس کا مقابل زیادہ کھول کر بیان کر دیا جائے تو بہتر ہوگا - شاعر کہتا ہے :

مے خواہی و تلد و تہز و واتکہ ہسہار

ابن بادہ فروہی ہست سالی کوثر نہست

یعنی آپ شراب چاہتے ہیں ، اور صرف شراب ہی نہیں چاہتے یہ بھی چاہتے ہیں کہ نہایت عمدہ اور تہز ہو - اور پھر اتنا ہی نہیں ، یہ بھی چاہتے ہیں کہ بہت ہو - شاعر کہتا ہے یہ نہ بھولئے کہ یہ فرمائشیں آپ جس سے کر رہے ہیں وہ بھجوارہ شراب بھجولے والا کمال ہے - جنت کا پالنے والا نہیں ہے جو آپ کی ایسی فرمائشیں پوری کر سکتا ہے -

میں بھی ہائوس سے کہتا کہ آپ تعلیم کے لئے جتنی فرمائشیں کرنی چاہتے ہیں شوق سے کھینچے - میرے سر انکھوں پر مگر مہربانی کر کے ایک بات ضرور یاد رکھئے میں ایجوکیشن منسٹر ہوں جنت کا داروغہ نہیں ہوں اور نہ جادوگر کی پٹاری میں ہے کہ چھو ملتر کھا اور دیخت کھوا ہو گیا -

(English translation of the above speech)

The Honourable Maulana Abul Kalam Azad (Minister for Education): Sir, general complaints have been made about the shortage of time. I share this view. The allotted time, however, cannot be changed and I shall try to have my say within the time permitted. For the information of Honourable Members, I have had a statement circulated which will give them an idea of the complete picture of the work before the Ministry of Education and they can have an idea of the progress than can be possible with the help of the grants provided in the Budget for the new year.

The first cut motion relates to an important matter namely Adult Education. In this connection I fully agree with the object of my Honourable friend. There is no doubt that the problem of adult education is as important as that of child education. The adult education has far greater aims than merely teaching

adults how to read and write. It is our duty to impart to adults an education which should develop their thinking faculty so that they are enlightened and enabled to take due interest in the affairs of a democratic state and society. In no walk of our national life can we progress without the considered and judicious cooperation of millions of our countrymen. Anyhow no body would deny the extreme importance of this work. What we have to see is how best this work can be accomplished in the shortest time.

The report submitted by the Central Advisory Board in the year 1944 contained also a scheme for adult education. But this scheme could not be enforced. It was after the last general elections, when the Congress Ministries were reestablished in the provinces, that attention was paid to this thing. Work was taken in hand but on too small a scale to meet the demands of the day. After my assumption of office as Education Minister last year the first task that confronted me was the Basic Education and Adult Education schemes. But the political condition of our country at that time was such that no time could be spared for attending to the task of education. Government was over head and ears engrossed with other affairs. I wanted to convene a meeting of the provincial education ministers and representatives of the Universities. Twice a date was fixed but every time it had to be postponed because conditions at that time made it impossible for men to assemble for a conference. Opportunity offered itself at last, and in January meetings of the Educational Conference and the Central Advisory Committee were held. I placed before them a new scheme for Adult Education; and you know that it was approved by both of these bodies. The report of the sub-committee appointed for this purpose by the Standing Committee of the Central Advisory Board was presented and accepted with some modifications. Our scheme is ready now. Its one branch concerns literary education and the other with the development of mental faculties. The latter provides besides oral lectures the media of radio, films and modern methods of open air dramas. Efforts are being made to secure the best equipment. For this very reason this year money has been earmarked for a film library. Production of educational films is being undertaken. A separate section has been started under the ministry for the purpose of helping in the preparation of necessary literature. The sub-committee appointed by the Advisory Board had stressed the inclusion of certain amount of technical education in this scheme because a majority of the adults receiving education under this scheme would be connected with some profession or art. This suggestion has therefore also been incorporated in the scheme. Opinions of the provincial Governments have been invited in this connection. We intend to introduce this scheme in such a way as should enable the schools of Basic Education to become centres of all activities of the Adult Education as well. In this way we want to create a new intellectual atmosphere in this country.

So far I have told you the story of Adult Education. But mere paper scheme does not do. It requires material and for material the question of money comes first. The House is familiar with the attitude the Central Government have hitherto been adopting in this connection. Government proceeds upto a certain point beyond which it cannot proceed. I wish we could cross these old limits and move along new lines.

I wanted to have double the present grant but due to the emphasis laid by the Ministry of Finance on our limitations for the year I had to content myself with it. The political conditions and especially the misfortunes of the Punjab, have suddenly burdened the finances of the Central Government; and due to this we have been forced to proceed slowly. Nevertheless I admit that other things can afford to wait but not education. It is necessary that somehow or other provision for money for this work must be made. This was also one of the fundamental questions which were raised in the Educational Conference which met on the

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16th January. The Conference has appointed a committee to go into this question and to make its recommendation. I hope Government will receive their recommendation by June and we will be able to arrange sufficient funds for carrying out essential schemes of education.

In moving the second cut motion the Honourable Shri Deshmukh has drawn the attention of Government to the necessity for technical education. I may assure him that Government have been doing everything possible in this connection and in our plan for the next year's Budget we have tried to move quickly. If the Honourable Members had glanced through the statement circulated to them, this cut-motion would probably have not been necessary. I will briefly tell to the House what has been done in this connection.

(1) The Government of India have decided to open four Higher Technical Institutions on the model of American Institutes: of these two will be located near about Calcutta and Bombay and work has to be started at once. From the files I find that this matter has been under consideration for the last two years; but so far neither any site has been selected nor any progress made in pushing through the work. I tried to remedy this state of affairs, and to enforce the scheme as soon as possible. The site has now been selected and arrangements for the staff are being made. Each of the four institutes would cost Rs. three crores as capital expenditure and rupees forty four lacs as recurring expenditure and will provide for the training of 8,000 students—2,000 Under graduates and 1,000 Post-graduates. The whole scheme is expected to be completed within two or three years.

(2) Four years' development plan for the Indian Institute of Science Bangalore, has been sanctioned, and the power engineering department is being opened.

(3) 'Three years' development plan for the Delhi Polytechnic has been sanctioned and the work is being started.

(4) The All India Council for Technical Education recommended to give from the Centre a grant to the existing technical institutions in the country. Accordingly the grant has been sanctioned for five years and it is being given.

(5) The House might be aware of the fact that an Overseas Scholarship scheme was passed by the Central Government in 1944 and scholars from India were being sent abroad for training. When the new Government assumed office it was felt that this scheme was not followed properly. Therefore the first thing was to try to raise the status of the existing institutions to a level so as to train students with much higher qualifications, and then to determine according to the plan the subjects for the study of which scholars should be sent abroad and then to grant scholarship for those subjects only. Accordingly with this object in view a committee called the Scientific Man Power Committee was set up, to investigate into the country's immediate scientific requirements and to prepare a plan how arrangements can best be made to carry out these requirements earlier. The committee is still functioning. It has submitted its interim report and Government gave their immediate attention to it and have accepted most of its recommendations. The recommendations stressed the need for giving fresh grants to the country's universities and institutions to enable them to augment their resources for imparting educational facilities in scientific and technical subjects. We have started giving grants from this year, and allotment of funds has been made for the three Central Universities.

(6) In addition to these activities of the Central Government the technical education work is also being generally accelerated in all the provinces. The Central Government have this year given handsome amounts to the Provincial Governments to enable them to implement their development schemes quickly.



Accordingly:

- 29 Junior Technical Institutions are being reorganised, and their scope of instructions is being enlarged.
- 4 Technical High Schools are being opened;
- 11 Senior Technical Institutions;
- 140 Junior Technical Schools;
- 88 Technical High Schools;
- 16 Polytechnics;
- 4 Senior Technical Institutions, will soon begin to function.

These statistics relate to the general Post War Development Plan.

In moving the third cut motion, the Honourable Mrs. Mehta has drawn our attention to the fact that no rules have yet been prescribed for grants to the universities. And it is necessary that the Central Government should elucidate its policy in this respect. I feel that no such question arises. The practice followed by the previous Government was to give grants to the three Central Universities only and with a view to give these grants a committee called the University Grants Committee was constituted. The present Government felt that if it was desired to raise the standard of education of the entire country to the same level, then the scope of Central Government's help should not be confined to the three Universities only. It should be further expanded. In other words we should open its doors for the distribution of grants to other Universities also. With this object the University Grants Committee was constituted *de novo* and its terms of reference have been framed in such a manner so as to fully conform to this new policy. All the applications which are now received by the Ministry will be passed on to the University Grants Committee. The Government will carefully consider over the recommendations made by the Committee in this respect.

**Shrimati Hansa Mehta:** It is true that I mentioned in my speech also that the scope of the Grants Committee is extending, but on what basis are we to give grants to other Universities. It should be on the same basis as the Central Universities and there should be no distinction, that is what I said.

**The Honourable Maulana Abul Kalam Azad:** Honourable Mrs. Hansa Mehta is one of the members of this Committee and she has every opportunity to discuss this matter in the Committee. I cannot say why she thought it necessary to move a cut motion to discuss this point.

She has also referred in her speech to the existence of communal institutions and has stressed the point as to why the word 'Hindu' and 'Muslim' should all be associated with the names of Benares and Aligarh Universities? I fully agree with the views expressed by her. I do not only agree but I welcome this idea. I extend a hearty welcome to this. No one else than myself will be happier if the words 'Hindu' and 'Muslim' are eliminated from the names of these two Universities. But it is clear that legislation establishing these Universities was passed by this House and until the Acts are amended we cannot make any change.

**An Honourable Member:** Why can't you amend the Act?

The Government are also in full agreement with the point stressed by Shrimati any Honourable Member of the House can move for an amendment of the Act. In any case this change must be made.

The Government are also in full agreement with the point stressed by Shrimati G. Durga Bai. Nothing can retard more the growth of our national life than the encouragement of 'community', 'religion' and 'caste' in the educational

[Maulana Abul Kalam Azad]

sphere and placing of such limitations as would separate one class of people from the other. When we oppose this, it is not our intention that the backward classes should not be provided with facilities for advancement. On the contrary they should be helped in every walk of life and there is no doubt education is the high-road for their advancement. If they have been left behind in the sphere of progress it is not their fault. The society is to be blamed for this. It is all the more necessary therefore that the society which has not upto now placed them on an equal footing, should help in their advancement. Take the case of our Harijan brethren. If seats can be reserved for them in some institutions it does not mean that they are accorded discriminatory treatment over other classes. The reason is that if such a course is not adopted there is danger that they would be lost and will not be able to receive the benefit of education according to their share. The Government quite agree with the view that there should be no distinction of caste or creed in the sphere of education and whatever policy the Government and universities of the provinces have so far followed in this respect they should now adopt the national policy of the Central Government. The Honourable Member has in particular referred to the Madras Government, but I cannot say what is the actual position there. I shall find out from the Madras Government and will invite their attention to this point.

The last motion was moved by the Honourable Mr. Frank Anthony, pointing out that the Government should have a uniform policy regarding language. If any change has to be introduced it should be done slowly and gradually after full consideration. The change from English to an Indian language should not be sudden as this will disturb the standard of education and will result in harassment to people. I can assure the Honourable Member that this is the policy of the Government who have advised the Provincial Governments to move cautiously and slowly in this matter. It must be known to the Honourable Members that I was first to raise my voice and warn the people against taking hasty steps and to move slowly. In my convocation address at the Patna University I first expressed my view that we should substitute the language in the course of five years and though we should start the process now the English language should continue for five years. This opinion applies not only to matters of education but also to matters of administration. Later on in the month of January when the Central Advisory Board and the Educational Conference met I placed the same view before them and laid emphasis on the point that English should be replaced gradually and after due consideration. I am glad the Central Advisory Board and the Educational Conference both agreed to this view, and I can say with confidence that the general policy of the Government in this connection will be as was indicated by me. Thus the Central Government have, so far as they are concerned, laid down a definite and clear policy on this subject and as medium of instruction English will be replaced by one or more Indian languages. We do not want a sudden change but the change should be effected step by step. Our plan is that this should be accomplished in five years and in such a manner that in the sixth year the need for English should vanish.

To put it succinctly the Government policy can be described as follows:

(1) So far as the primary and secondary stage is concerned it has been decided that the medium of instruction will be the mother tongue, and this is being put into practice by all the provinces;

(2) for the University stage it has been decided that English can not continue as the medium of instruction but this change we should bring about in five years so that in the sixth year English will be fully replaced.

This is then the policy of the Government on the language question and the representatives of the provinces who came to attend the Educational Conference also agreed to it. It is, therefore, not correct to say that the Government have no uniform policy in this matter.

**Mr. R. K. Sidhva:** With your permission I want to ask one question and invite the Honourable Minister's attention to page 102 of the Budget Demand. In this a sum of Rs. 24,500 has been provided for Churches. In respect to this Government has stated that no grant would be given in future and I want to know why is this being continued?

**The Honourable Maulana Abul Kalam Azad:** I cannot answer this at the moment because the details of this item are not before me. I can only say that this amount is being given to Churches since previous years and it is related to a separate fund.

**Shri R. B. Diwakar:** Sir, The question about the future national language in the Universities has not been answered.

**The Honourable Maulana Abul Kalam Azad:** No reply has been given to it because no decision has been taken about it so far. As I have already said it has been decided that the medium of instruction even in the University will be the national language. But we have not decided yet whether we are going to have one or more national languages. The All India Educational Conference which I convened in January last has appointed a Committee to go into this matter and we are awaiting the recommendations of this Committee.

The Honourable Member has specially mentioned the U. P. Government. I cannot say what exactly his point is? In November last I saw a press report to the effect that the U.P. Government will stop printing the U.P. Government Gazette in English from the new year. I immediately wrote a letter to the U.P. Premier suggesting that it will not be proper to do away with English so suddenly. In his reply to my letter he assured me that his Government was not in favour of making sudden changes and that he fully concurred in my opinion expressed in my address at the Patna University. Now I am aware that the U.P. Government Gazette is still being published in English as usual.

**Shri K. Santhanam:** May I enquire from Maulana Sahib whether the English translation of the Persian-couplet appearing in his English statement is correct?

**The Honourable Maulana Abul Kalam Azad:** The translation is not incorrect but I had better explain the meaning fully. The poet says:

مے خواہی و تندوتہا، وانکہ ہسمار  
ایں بادہ فروش ہست ساقی کو سرنہست

"Thou desirest wine? and not only wine but wine that is good and strong, and not only good and strong but in abundance?"

Then the poet says: forget not ye, thou art making these requests to a petty wine dealer (a *Kala*). He is not the wine server of paradise who can give you, what you want."

I will also tell the House that it is welcome to make as many requests as it pleases regarding matters educational and I will welcome all such requests but it should not forget that I am only a Minister of Education and not an Officer-in-charge of paradise, nor have I a magician's basket with me to produce a full grown tree at a moment's notice.

1954

CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY OF INDIA (LEGISLATIVE) [11TH MARCH 1948]

**Shri B. B. Diwakar:** Sir, I beg leave of the House to withdraw my cut motion.

**Mr. Chairman:** Has the Honourable Member leave of the House to withdraw?

The cut motion was, by leave of the Assembly, withdrawn.

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** Sir, I beg leave of the House to withdraw my cut motion.

**Mr. Chairman:** Has the Honourable Member leave of the House to withdraw?

The cut motion was, by leave of the Assembly, withdrawn.

**Shrimati Hansa Mehta:** Sir, I beg leave of the House to withdraw my cut motion.

**Mr. Chairman:** Has the Honourable Member leave of the House to withdraw?

The cut motion was, by leave of the Assembly, withdrawn.

**Shrimati G. Durgabai:** Sir, I beg leave of the House to withdraw my cut motion.

**Mr. Chairman:** Has the Honourable Member leave of the House to withdraw?

The cut motion was, by leave of the Assembly, withdrawn.

**Mr. Frank E. Anthony:** Sir, I beg leave of the House to withdraw my cut motion.

**Mr. Chairman:** Has the Honourable Member leave of the House to withdraw?

The cut motion was, by leave of the Assembly, withdrawn.

**Mr. Chairman:** The question is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 17,95,000 be granted to the Governor-General to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1949, in respect of 'Ministry of Works, Mines and Power'."

The motion was adopted.

**Mr. Chairman:** The question is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 86,31,000 be granted to the Governor-General to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1949, in respect of 'Ministry of Education'."

The motion was adopted.

**Mr. Chairman:** The question is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 86,31,000 be granted to the Governor-General to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1949, in respect of Education'."

The motion was adopted.

*The Assembly then adjourned till a Quarter to Eleven of the Clock on Friday, the 12th March, 1948.*

## **APPENDIX**

### **STATEMENT OF POLICY BY THE HONOURABLE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION IN CONNECTION WITH THE CUT-MOTIONS ON THE BUDGET PROPOSALS FOR 1945-46 AS CIRCULATED TO HONOURABLE MEMBERS.**

1. I feel that giving a general outline of the Government's educational policy is necessary in view of the fact that this is the first Budget for a full year of free and independent India. I am, therefore, availing of this occasion to place before the honourable members a statement not only of schemes we have in hand and the moneys involved in their execution, but also a blue-print of our future educational edifice.

2. When the National Government was formed in August 1947, it entered into a heritage which was burdened with many encumbrances. There was no clean slate to write upon but a palimpsest on which was scrawled the marks of generations of scribes who had each his own mode and style. For 100 years, there had been in this land a government imposed from above with an attitude, a tradition and a method of work which was largely alien. The first task of the National Government was, therefore, to avoid being swallowed up by the past. It was easy to run in line with existing tendencies and take the line of least resistance. The National Government resisted that temptation and sought to create new traditions, a new point of view and a new attitude towards our problems and their solution. I do not say that the slate has been wiped clean, for the work of generations cannot be swept away in a day. No efforts have, however, been spared for the reorientation of the policy of Government, and I hope that the House will agree that success in a large measure has been achieved.

3. I assumed charge of what was then the Department of Education on the 15th January 1947. My task was to survey the schemes, some of which were already in operation, some just started and others yet in the planning stage. These schemes were, however, all conceived at a time when an alien Government was in the seat of power and I had to examine what modifications were necessary in order to bring them into line with the spirit of the changed time and circumstances. I also conceived it as my duty to undertake new plans in the educational field to enable us to realise the objectives for which the Indian people have been striving for the last 60 years or more.

4. I need not dilate on the difficulties which we have had to face during the last year. There was almost from the beginning political uncertainty and the fate of the country hung in the balance. The Cabinet Mission plan was in the melting pot and soon after there emerged the plan for a division of the country into two States. In addition, there were, as every member of the House is aware, internal stresses inside the Government itself which made it impossible for us to function as a homogeneous Cabinet and pull our full weight in advancing the interests of India.

5. It is true that after the 15th of August, most of these uncertainties were set at rest and the internal stresses within the Cabinet resolved. There were, however, new and stupendous happenings beginning with the Punjab upheavals when for full three months the Government had to suspend and hold in abeyance almost all its activities and gear the administrative machinery to one and one purpose alone, viz. the rescue of those unfortunate countrymen of ours who had been involved in this terrific catastrophe.

6. In spite of all these distractions, the Government have spared no efforts to advance the cause of education in the country. One thing which struck my notice soon after I assumed charge was that even where the Government had formulated well thought-out and beneficial schemes, the execution was so slow that no appreciable results could be expected unless the process was

accelerated. I will give you one or two instances of the slowness of the Government machinery when we took over charge. It was decided to establish a Central Institute of Education full two years ago and a budget provision of Rs. 22 lakhs was sanctioned for the purpose. It is true that lack of building material was partly responsible for failure to implement the plan, but in my opinion, this is not sufficient justification for having failed to bring the institute into existence. If necessary, a start might have been made and the institute housed in a temporary or hired building while its permanent edifice was being constructed.

7. Another example to which I must draw your attention is the scheme of basic education for the country. Both the Central and the Provincial Governments had agreed to put into effect immediately the first 5-year plan or the basic education scheme which aimed at providing free and compulsory training to all citizens between the ages of 6 and 14. I feel that the Centrally Administered Areas should have served as a model and even if there were delays elsewhere, these areas should have put the scheme into immediate effect. I regret to say that though huge piles of correspondence piled up between the Central Government and the Delhi Local Administration, the work did not start.

8. I now come to schemes which had already started when I assumed charge but not in the spirit and manner that I considered necessary. The scheme of overseas scholarships was conceived in 1944 and a beginning was made during that very year. This was a most important scheme and should have been carried out according to carefully thought out plans. We should have examined what is the capacity of existing institutions in India and how far they can be quickly expanded in order to meet our requirements. Where conditions in the country demanded that students must be sent abroad, it was necessary that great care and thought should be exercised in the choice of scholars and the institutions to which they were sent. We should have considered that the exigencies of war made conditions extremely difficult in both U. K. and U. S. A. Even when war was over, 90 per cent. of the seats in most of their universities and technical institutions were reserved for their own ex-service personnel. In addition, there were great difficulties with regard to housing and food for students who would go to the U. K. I am afraid that these factors were not properly weighed, and a decision was taken to send 500 students abroad every year. Two batches had already gone and the selection of a third almost completed when I assumed charge. I did not want to stop this third batch from going abroad but considered that a further survey of the entire scheme was necessary. Accordingly I appointed an Overseas Scholarship Committee which has already submitted its report and the Scientific Manpower Committee which also has submitted an interim report. In the light of their recommendations, new plans are being made and I can indicate the general policy of Government. From now on, more money will be spent on the expansion of Indian institutions and only in exceptional circumstances will selected candidates be sent for training abroad at Government expense.

9. One of our biggest, and perhaps our most important scheme is the Basic Education Scheme for universal compulsory education. Important and valuable work was done by the Central Advisory Board of Education under the last Government. We could not, however, take their recommendations as they stood and felt that certain important modifications were necessary. According to that plan, the full implementation of the scheme would take 40 years but people of India are not prepared to wait for even half that period. I have said earlier that in my opinion the Centrally Administered Areas should serve both as a pioneer and a model, and accordingly I have set up the Delhi Provincial Education Board, and I am taking steps to see that from the 1st of July this year, the basic education plan starts operating in this area.

10. I felt that we should go ahead with the scheme in other areas of India as well. For this, however, it was necessary to get the fullest cooperation from the Provinces and the States. I, therefore, proposed an All India Educational Conference and had originally intended that this should meet in June 1947. Political uncertainties compelled postponement of this Conference twice but ultimately it was held in January 1948. I suggested to the Conference that instead of 40 years, we should aim at a target of five years for the completion of the plan and in any case see that the plan is fully executed and worked out within a period of ten years. The Conference agreed with me and unanimously resolved that steps should be taken to bring this about. There were the problems of trained teachers and finance. The Conference held that while every effort must be made to increase facilities for training teachers, we cannot wait till a sufficient number of trained teachers are available but must go ahead with existing material in the country. It was therefore proposed that there should be some kind of educational conscription for five years during which every literate man in the country would be expected to put in a period of service as a teacher of the nation. The finances involved are an additional expenditure of about Rs. 24 crores per year for the next five years. The Conference suggested that a Committee should be appointed to examine all available methods for meeting the financial requirements.

11. I have referred to the Central Institute of Education, the establishment of which was approved two years ago. I decided that we should not wait because of shortage of building material but go ahead with the scheme with whatever housing was available. Accordingly, the Institute was started in December 1947 and is housed partly in tents and partly in a bungalow in the Cavalry Lines. I am hoping that very soon the foundation-stone of its permanent buildings will be laid.

12. I will now briefly refer to the schemes for which funds are needed during the coming year. You will find that the Tata Institute of Science was given a grant of Rs. 3.5 lakhs non-recurring and Rs. 0.5 lakh recurring in the year 1947-48. Provision for an equal amount had been made during the coming year. Provision has also been made in the budget for 1948-49 for a library of educational and cultural films which will be used to carry out the scheme of adult education. Without simultaneous drive for adult education our schemes for basic education for children of 6-14 years cannot be fully implemented.

13. Provision has also been made for the establishment of a National Museum of Art, Archaeology and Anthropology. Here the amounts provided are less than what are required. The financial stringency compelled us to slow down the rate of progress, but I trust that we will very soon be able to go ahead with the programmes at full speed.

14. You will find that provision has also been made in the budget for helping the universities in schemes of fundamental research. The importance of such fundamental research need hardly be emphasized before so responsible a body as this House. I may only add that with the same end in view, we have also provided moneys for research in Higher Polymer Physics and Chemistry at the Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science, Calcutta, and the establishment of a Power Engineering Department at the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore.

15. Honourable Members are aware that the Central Government have a special responsibility for the development of the Central Universities, and under this head provision has been made both for implementation of the interim scheme and the execution of the post-war development plans.

16. I have referred earlier to the new policy of the Government to expand facilities for training within the country itself instead of sending scholars abroad.



In pursuance of that policy, you will find in the budget provision for improvement and development of existing technical institutions according to the recommendations of the All India Council for Technical Education. The most important projects in this respect are the establishment of the Eastern and the Western Higher Technical Institutions near Calcutta and Bombay respectively. The site for the Eastern Higher Technical Institute has already been approved and the site for the Western Higher Technical Institute has also been provisionally selected. A start has been made in regard to the recruitment of expert staff and advertisements issued simultaneously in India, U. K., and U.S.A. for recruitment of 1 Director and 8 Heads of Departments for the Eastern Institute. They will also be responsible for the planning work for the Western Institute in the initial stages. Provision has also been made for the establishment of Regional Committees for the All India Council for Technical Education.

17. There is today an extreme emphasis on development of facilities for scientific and industrial training. I, however, feel that a country like India with its age-long traditions can ignore the humanities only at the risk of jeopardising her ancient civilization and culture. Provision has, therefore, been made in the budget for the reorganisation of the Marris College of Hindustani Music, the establishment of a Central College of Karnatak Music in South India and, most important of all, the establishment of a National Cultural Trust. For the Marris College, a grant-in-aid of Rs. 1,45,000 was sanctioned for the year 1947-48 and an equivalent amount has been provided in the next year's budget. For the Central College of Karnatak Music an amount of Rs. 4,25,000 has been provided in the budget. The establishment of a National Cultural Trust with 8 Academies to cater for Arts, Architecture, Letters, Music, Drama and Dancing will serve to focus the artistic and cultural life of the nation in one common Centre.

18. Schemes have also been formulated for the establishment of a Training College of Physical Education and a sum of Rs. 2,10,000 provided in the budget for the purpose. Provision has also been made for a Training College for Teachers in Domestic Science in cooperation with the Lady Irwin College in New Delhi. Admission will be on an All-India basis with provision of scholarships as well as maintenance in deserving cases.

19. I have referred earlier to the necessity of increasing facilities for training of teachers. The two schemes of Training College for Physical Education and for Domestic Science are meant to meet the requirements from one point of view. For general training of teachers, in addition to the schemes already referred to, provision has been made for expanding training facilities at the Viswabharati. Training in arts and crafts, dancing and music and in basic education will be provided there.

20. Provision has also been made for the establishment of a Central Braille Press for the service of the blind. There are several other schemes which had to be either postponed or slowed down because of financial stringency. I may refer to the proposal for the establishment of a Central Institute of Foreign Languages. With India's expanding contacts with all countries of the world, the need for such an Institute is obvious. A Central Bureau of Psychology is also a pressing need but no provision could be made for it in next year's budget. The matter is, however, under consideration. Another scheme which has had to be postponed is the establishment of an Experimental School in Delhi on the lines recommended by the Central Advisory Board. I trust that after the Basic Education Plan has been put into operation, it will be found possible to revive this project. The establishment of a National Central Copyright Library as well as a Central School of Indian Architecture and Regional Planning had also to be postponed for financial reasons. I would not have, in normal circumstances, agreed to anyone of these schemes being



postponed or slowed down, but on account of the extraordinary circumstances of last year and particularly the drain upon the nation's resources on account of the Punjab calamity, I have reluctantly agreed to this slowing down. I however, trust that this is purely temporary and we shall soon be able to go fullsteam ahead.

21. I have given some account of the work in hand. I may frankly say that I am not fully satisfied either with the progress achieved or the number of schemes in operation. I would, however, like the Honourable Members to remember that nothing can be done without adequate finances. I will give three further instances of the way in which extremely important work has had to be postponed or slowed down because of shortage of funds. The Honourable Members are aware that the Archaeology Department is one of the most important sources from which we get material for the "Discovery of India". It is well known that the history of India is still a wide and uncovered field, and it will be no exaggeration to say that our real history lies buried underground. Excavations on large scale are necessary to unearth the relics of the past and reconstruct our history, but mean funds which are not at the moment available.

22. Our National Archives, formerly known as Imperial Records, are a treasurehouse for the history of last 200 years. These records must be carefully preserved for the loss of one record means that one chapter of our history has been lost. Further, once these records are lost, they can never be recovered again. Schemes for air-conditioning and use of modern scientific methods for the preservation of these documents had been planned. We had also planned the classification and arrangement of the records for facility of reference and study, but the lack of funds prevented the provision of any money this year and there is nothing in next year's budget as well.

23. The Royal Asiatic Society of Bengal is also a veritable treasurehouse of Sanskrit, Pali, Arabic, Persian and Tibetan records. The collection there is one of the richest in the world. The climate of Calcutta, however, has led to damage of many old manuscripts. It is essential that immediate steps must be taken to restore and preserve 9000 of such manuscripts. Air-conditioning is indispensable in a climate like that of Calcutta but this again means additional expenditure. I propose to appoint a Committee to report on the best methods of preservation of these records and finding necessary finances for the purpose.

24. There are also new schemes of study which are necessary, if we are to give a proper orientation to our national outlook. There must be a revision of syllabus and courses of study from the primary to the university stage. I will mention only two fields where immediate work in this connection is essential. The history of India is a proud heritage of every Indian citizen. Yet there does not exist as yet any true national history of our land. It is necessary that a history of Indian civilization and culture from the earliest times must be taken in hand at an early date. Honourable Members are also aware that Indian philosophy is one of the proudest possessions of human civilization. In our college histories of philosophy, Indian philosophy is, however, relegated to an obscure corner. In order to get a true perspective of philosophy, it is necessary that a student should know of the great contributions of India, along with the developments which took place in Greece and modern Europe. I propose to appoint a Committee of eminent philosophers with Dr. Radhakrishnan as the Chairman to write a history of Philosophy in which due and proper emphasis will be given to these facts. It is my intention to have a similar Committee for supervising the preparation of a history of India.

25. I would like in passing to mention that with a view to providing necessary education for the masses, a new Section of Social Education has just

been started in the Ministry. I need hardly remind you of Disraeli's famous saying that we must educate our masters, but to serve its real purpose, this education must be not only a teaching of the R's but an education in the structure, traditions and purposes of society.

26. I would also like to inform Honourable Members that we have just started an interesting experiment for encouraging young artists by the award of an honorarium. Six artists have been chosen this year and have been awarded a grant of Rs. 2,500 each. The grant is unconditional but given only to artists who are young, full of promise and in such financial conditions that they require State help to develop their genius. The artists were selected by a Committee of experts of established reputation.

27. I have again and again emphasized the need for providing more funds for education. I would like Honourable Members to consider the proportion of money spent by the Central Government for educational purposes. For the year 1946-47, the total Central budget was Rs. 421,85,86,000. Out of this only Rs. 1,87,18,500 were spent on Education. This represents only 0.4 per cent. of the total budget. If the expenditure on Defence, Posts, Telegraphs and Railways is excluded from the budget, the percentage of expenditure on Education would work out at 1.8 per cent. This represents an unhappy state of affairs and must be remedied as early as possible.

28. It is true that Education is a Provincial subject but during the present phase of the country's development, it is absolutely imperative that the Centre must take the initiative. I have already referred to the Scientific Manpower Committee. In its interim report, it has urged the necessity of the Centre taking the initiative in the provision of technical education of different grades and types throughout the country. What applies to technical education holds equally true of art, archaeology, anthropology and other specialised studies.

29. I know that generally the Treasury Benches want to avoid pressure from Honourable Members and are happy if their proposals are accepted without comment or criticism. I, however, welcome the constructive suggestions they have made and shall be glad if they put further pressure on me and the Government to do as much as possible for a new expansion of education in this ancient land. I need hardly say that whatever be our programme for industrial, scientific, agricultural, commercial or material progress and development, none of them can be achieved without an improvement of the human material which is the basis of our national wealth. That human material is largely conditioned by the training and education which it receives. It seems to me that whether we think of defence or of food or of industries and commerce we must take every step to see that education is given the first priority among all our national requirements. If this is also the opinion of Honourable Members, and they urge upon the Government to act in that light, no one will be happier than myself, whatever may be said in criticism of the proposals or schemes that I have presented before the House.

30. I know that these schemes are not fully satisfactory. I myself would have liked to present before the House a more ambitious scheme of Educational programme and development. Conditions, were, however, against us and we had to fight against tremendous odds, unprecedented in the history of our land. I would, therefore, plead that the House should judge us, not by the quantum of results achieved, but by the effort and strain involved in achieving them in the face of stupendous difficulties. Honourable Members are aware of the existence of these obstacles, but perhaps do not always realise their magnitude and extent. The Government have no Alladin's Lamp which can

build palaces overnight and must, through days, months and years, strive to erect the edifice which all of us desire. In the words of the Persian poet:

*Mai khwahi o tund o tez wangah bisiar  
Een badah farosh hast Sagi-e-Kausar nest.*

Thou desirest wine: wine that is strong and powerful—

And not only strong and powerful but in profuse and abundant measure.  
Rememberest thou that here is a vintner no servitor of Paradise.

31. If you remember our difficulties and also remember what has nevertheless been achieved, I feel confident that you will command the manner in which a beginning has been made. I make bold to say that though difficulties and obstacles prevented us from completing the house, yet no obstacle, no difficulty, no diversion, no opposition could make us desist from our task. I would submit that though the house has not yet been built, foundations have been laid on true and sound lines.

*The 11th March 1948.*

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