

Monday,
15th March, 1948

THE
CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY OF INDIA
(LEGISLATIVE DEBATES)

Official Report

60

VOLUME III, 1948

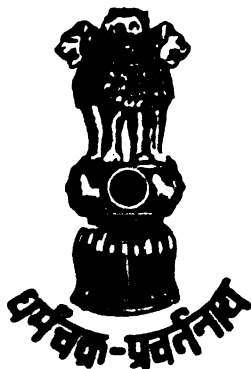
(5th March to 18th March, 1948)

SECOND SESSION

of the

CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY OF INDIA (LEGISLATIVE)

1948



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CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY OF INDIA (LEGISLATIVE)

Monday, 15th 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 member made the declaration under Rule 20:

Sardar Bhopinder Singh Man (East Punjab: Sikh).

STARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

ORAL ANSWERS.

The Honourable Shri R. K. Shanmukham Chetty: I am answering the questions on behalf of the Minister of Commerce.

Mr. Speaker: I want to know who would be answering for the Honourable Minister for Works, Mines and Power.

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: I have the answers.

Mr. Speaker: Then who will be answering questions on behalf of the Honourable Minister for Relief and Rehabilitation?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: I have those questions.

Mr. Speaker: I was just experiencing that difficulty.

HEADS OF MERCHANT SHIPPING OFFICES BOMBAY, CALCUTTA AND MADRAS.

767. **Mr. R. K. Sridiva:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Commerce be pleased to state whether the Administrative Heads of the Merchant Shipping office in Bombay, Madras and Calcutta, are Indians or non-Indians?

(b) What are the qualifications prescribed for eligibility to the post of Shipping Master?

(c) Are training schools for this class available in India? If so, what are they?

(d) If not, what are the future plans of Government for giving such training to Indian Nationals?

The Honourable Shri R. K. Shanmukham Chetty: (a) The Administrative Heads of the Government shipping Offices in Bombay and Calcutta, *viz.*, Shipping Masters, are Indians. In Madras, where recruitment of seamen is on a comparatively small scale, the duties such as those performed by Shipping Masters in Calcutta or Bombay, are performed by the Principal Officer of the Mercantile Marine Department in addition to his duties as a Technical Officer. The present Principal Officer of Madras is also an Indian.

(b) The qualifications prescribed for the posts of Shipping Masters are:

(i) Executive experience, (ii) Experience of handling labour problems generally and maritime labour problems in particular.

(c) and (d). No training schools for this class of officers exist in India nor is there need for any special schools as the duties of Shipping Masters are mainly of an administrative nature.

HOISTING OF INDIAN UNION FLAG BESIDES THEIR OWN BY FOREIGN STEAMERS ENTERING INDIAN PORTS

748. **Mr. B. K. Sidhva:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Commerce be pleased to state whether it is not a fact that under the International Shipping Conventions, all steamers owned by Foreign Nationals arriving in Indian ports have to hoist the flag of the Indian Union along with their own flag?

(b) Is it not a fact that several such steamers arriving in Bombay ports do not hoist the Indian Union flag?

(c) Do Government propose to draw the attention of the Port authorities of all ports in India that all steamers in the harbour on arrival and on departure should hoist the flag of the Indian Union along with their own flag?

The Honourable Shri B. K. Shanmukham Chetty: (a) Government of India are not aware of any International Convention making it obligatory on merchant ships owned by foreign nationals to hoist the flag of the Indian Union along with their own flag when arriving at an Indian port. There is, however, an old-established custom observed by the mercantile marine of nearly all the maritime countries under which the merchant navy ensign of the country into which a ship has entered is hoisted on board as an act of courtesy, along with the ensign of the country to which the ship belongs. This ensign, however, need not necessarily be the same as the national flag of the country.

(b) Though, as indicated in answer to part (a) of the question it is not necessary, the majority of foreign ships arriving in Bombay apparently hoist the Indian Union Flag.

(c) Government are considering the question of designing a suitable merchant navy ensign and the question of issuing necessary instructions for its use will be considered at the appropriate time.

Mr. B. K. Sidhva: Is it a fact that the Government of India have invited suggestions from the Indian Shipping companies in Calcutta as to the nature of the flag that the Indian merchant ships should fly?

The Honourable Shri B. K. Shanmukham Chetty: The question of the design of the flag for the mercantile marine is under consideration and I suppose all the interests concerned will be consulted.

Mr. B. K. Sidhva: My question was whether the Government of India have already asked for suggestions.

The Honourable Shri B. K. Shanmukham Chetty: I have not got with me the answer to the question asked by the Honourable Member, but I will pass it on to my Honourable colleague and I have no doubt that he will take into consideration.

Mr. B. K. Sidhva: Under what flag is the Indian Mercantile Marine?

The Honourable Shri B. K. Shanmukham Chetty: Under the U. K. Red Ensign. That is the ensign for all our mercantile marine.

Mr. B. K. Sidhva: As other mercantile marines have made a change in their ensigns, our mercantile marine should also consider changing its ensign.

The Honourable Shri B. K. Shanmukham Chetty: I do not know about the other institutions. But this Red Ensign is prescribed by the Merchant Shipping Act of 1894 which is still the operative statute for the registration of

ships The Indian Shipping Act does not cover this point and this Act is now under revision and we are taking steps to ensure that this Act is amended and we will then prescribe our own ensign for the mercantile marine.

Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: Will the Government along with this take into consideration the desirability of revising the emblems the seamen wear on their shirts and also their caps?

The Honourable Shri B. K. Shanmukham Chetty: That also will be taken into consideration.

Shri H. V. Kamath: Pending the final decision about our mercantile marine ensign, do not Government propose to have our own flag for the ensign at present?

Mr. Tajamul Hosain: Yes, quite so. If not, why not?

The Honourable Shri B. K. Shanmukham Chetty: Under the Merchant Shipping Act the British ships registered in India have certain statutory privileges conferred upon them. Therefore, unless the Merchant Shipping Act is amended we cannot enforce the use of any particular flags on those ships: but we are taking steps to do that.

Shri K. Santhanam: Are the ships registered in India also bound by the Merchant Shipping Act of Britain?

The Honourable Shri B. K. Shanmukham Chetty: That is the present constitutional position.

Shri K. Santhanam: Under what Act of the Indian Legislature is that obligation laid on the Indian ships?

The Honourable Shri B. K. Shanmukham Chetty: The Merchant Shipping Act of 1894.

Shri K. Santhanam: Will he explain how the Merchant Shipping Act of Britain applies to Indian ships?

The Honourable Shri B. K. Shanmukham Chetty: That is apparently how they did it in those days. I am not responsible for that.

Mr. B. K. Sidhva: Is it a fact that some of our Indian companies do fly our national flag at present?

The Honourable Shri B. K. Shanmukham Chetty: As I mentioned in my answer, as an act of courtesy even other ships that enter our ports do fly our Union Flag, but we will have our own distinctive mercantile marine flag.

NECESSITY OF HINDI SCRIPT ON KURUKSHETRA CAMP SIGN BOARDS

749. *Shri Jaspat Roy Kapoor: Will the Honourable Minister of Relief and Rehabilitation be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the sign boards at Kurukshetra camp do not bear inscriptions in Hindi script and this causes great inconvenience to those refugees, and particularly to women refugees, who know only Hindi; and

(b) whether Government propose to take steps to see that all sign boards in Kurukshetra camp are being written in Hindi script also?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: (a) and (b). Of the population of the Kurukshetra Camp only a small proportion can read the Hindi script. A majority of the literate are conversant with the Urdu script. Sign boards are in Urdu and English but some are in Hindi also. Instructions have been issued that sign boards should be in the Hindi and Gurmukhi script as well as in Urdu and English.

Shri H. V. Kamath: Do Government propose to have literacy classes in these refugee camps so that the rudiments of language can be taught?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: That does not arise out of this.

Shri H. V. Kamath: It does because of the script.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: I may inform the Honourable Member that there are such classes in the camp.

Shri H. V. Kamath: Thank you, thank you!

Mr. Speaker: I do not think it is necessary for Honourable Members to say, "Thank you", "Thank you." I have often pointed out that Honourable Members have to address the Chair. The decorum and the seriousness of the proceedings do require that it should be taken in that light and there should not be light-hearted "Thank you's", which I have often noticed in this House, particularly on the part of some members, whose names I need not mention.

Shri H. V. Kamath: Is it in order to render thanks through the Chair?

Mr. Speaker: No; no "Thanks"; no "Jai Hinds"; no "Bande Matarams"; nothing of the kind.

Mr. Tajamul Hossain: Are Government aware that the inscription in Hindi caused great inconvenience to those refugees who are illiterate and if the answer to the question be in the affirmative, do Government propose to remove illiteracy?

Mr. Speaker: it does not arise out of this question.

EVACUATION OF NON-MUSLIM REFUGEES AND RESULTS OF ATTACK ON PARACHINAR CAMP.

780. *Shri Jaspal Roy Kapoor: Will the Honourable Minister of Relief and Rehabilitation be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was an attack in the last week of January by Muslims on the Hindu and Sikh refugees in Parachinar camp;

(b) the number of refugees, killed, wounded and abducted in this attack;

(c) whether Government have taken up this matter with the Government of Pakistan and if so, with what result;

(d) what was the total number of refugees in Parachinar camp on the date of the said attack;

(e) how many of these refugees have, since the date of attack, come over to India, and how many of them are in Kurukshetra camp and how many in other camps;

(f) how many such refugees are still in Parachinar camp, and what arrangement is being made for their early evacuation to India;

(g) for how long have these refugees been in Parachinar camp;

(h) whether it is a fact that the refugees at the said camp were neither given free rations nor were given rations at controlled rates and that they had to buy the same at exorbitant prices;

- (i) why all the said refugees have not yet been evacuated;
- (j) whether Government are aware that these refugees are very anxious that they should be rehabilitated in a place with cool climate to which they were used in Parachinar; and
- (k) if so, whether Government propose to meet their wishes in this respect, and if so, where it is proposed to rehabilitate them?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: (a) Yes.

(b) About 188 refugees are reported to have been killed, 150 wounded and between 200 to 300 abducted.

(c) Yes. As a result of the representation made, a good number of abducted persons have been recovered.

(d) About 1,600.

(e) Apart from those who were killed or abducted almost the entire number have come over to the territories of the Indian Union. Almost all of them are in Kurukshetra Camp but a few have gone to their relations in other parts of India.

(f) Does not arise.

(g) About four months.

(h) That is the informatoin of the Government.

(i) Does not arise.

(j) and (k). Some of the refugees from Parachinar have recently made a representation for allotment of shops in Delhi. This is being considered. Attempts will be made to rehabilitate others in suitable places.

Shri Jaspal Roy Kapoor: Out of the abducted persons how many are women?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: I require notice of that question.

Shri M. Anathasayanam Ayyangar: Out of the abducted persons have any women been rescued?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: The number includes, I presume, both men and women.

REHABILITATION OF UNSUPPORTED REFUGEE WOMEN AND CHILDREN.

751. *Shri Jaspal Roy Kapoor: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Relief and Rehabilitation be pleased to state whether any houses have been established for unsupported refugee women and children and, if so, where?

(b) What is the number of inmates of each of these houses?

(c) How many unsupported women and children are there in the Kurukshetra and other camps?

(d) Do Government propose to remove them soon to the already existing houses or to establish new houses if the existing ones are not sufficient for the purpose?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: (a) Yes, three homes have been established for unsupported women and children at Kurukshetra camp, Shamshad Manzil and Poor House Delhi.

(b) The number of inmates in these homes is:

	Women	Children
(i) Kurukshetra	110	210
(ii) Shamshad Manzil, Delhi.	57	197
(iii) Poor House, Delhi.	20	113

(c) The information in respect of Kurukshetra is given in reply to part (b). The information in respect of other camps is as under:

(i) Delhi camps, Women 129, Children 171.

(ii) Other regional camps of the Central Government Women 918, Children 529.

Information in respect of Provinces has been called for and will be laid on the table in due course.

(d) The question will be considered when necessity arises.

Shrimati G. Durgabai: Arising out of answer to part (c) of the question, may I know what steps the Government have taken to enlist the co-operation of the Kasturba National Trust workers and the All India Women's Conference to rehabilitate these unfortunate women, who are still in Kurukshetra?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: I am sorry I am not in a position to supply the information but I will ask the Honourable Minister concerned to supply the information to the questioner.

Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: With regard to the helpless children are Government prepared to hand them over to individuals or institutions who are prepared to take care of them and apply to the Government for that purpose?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: I will suggest to the Honourable Minister to consider the suggestion.

Shrimati G. Durgabai: If some of these women are found to be qualified either to work as sewing mistresses, school teachers or dancing teachers, will Government be prepared to make a list of those women and supply it to women's institutions and clubs?

Mr. Speaker: These are all suggestions for action.

HOUSES FOR OLD AND DISABLED REFUGEES

752. ***Shri Jaspal Roy Kapoor:** Will the Honourable Minister of Relief and Rehabilitation be pleased to state:

(a) whether any houses have been established for old and disabled refugees who have none to look after them; and

(b) if not, whether Government propose to establish such houses?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: (a) and (b). A home for old and infirm persons has been established at Kurukshetra. Its present strength is about 120.

SHORTAGE OF BURMAH SHELL OIL AND DIESEL OIL

753. ***Shri Damodar Swarup Seth:** Will the Honourable Minister of Works, Mines and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Burmah Shell Company have stopped the supply of oil to the general public and that diesel oil is not available in the market;

(b) whether Government are aware that the shortage of diesel oil has caused a serious set back to the industrial and agricultural projects sponsored or aided by Government; and

(c) the reasons for this shortage and what steps Government propose to take to improve the supply position of the oil?

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

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: (a) It is not a fact that the oil Co. referred to have stopped supply of oils to the general public. Supply position of Diesel Oil is most unsatisfactory and what is happening is that deliveries to consumers are being restricted some-what on the basis of the availability of stocks.

(b) Government are fully aware of the position.

(c) The main reasons for shortage are:

(i) Expanding world demand for petroleum products beyond the present production capacity of the industry.

(ii) Shortage of tanker tonnage which may be regarded as specially responsible for the shortage of Black Oils, such as Furnace Oil.

India's internal production being very small, Government is exploring all possible means to obtain increased supplies from abroad.

DEPARTMENT DEALING WITH MUSLIM EVACUEES' PROPERTY IN DELHI.

†754. ***Giani Gurmukh Singh Musafar:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Relief and Rehabilitation be pleased to state when the department dealing with the Muslim evacuees' property (Delhi) was established?

(b) What is the number of care-takers appointed for business premises and the industrial establishments evacuated by Muslims and on what terms were they appointed?

(c) What is the total expenditure so far incurred for maintaining this establishment?

(d) Have Government framed any rules and regulations for governing and guiding the policy of the department in question?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: (a) The Custodian of Evacuees Property started functioning on the 1st October, 1947.

(b) 78 caretakers have been appointed for business premises and 58 for industrial concerns. The terms and conditions of appointment are mentioned in the bonds executed by the caretakers copies of which are laid on the table. They include liability for any loss which the owner of the property may suffer due to the wilful negligence of the caretakers and the condition that all orders issued by the Custodian will be obeyed. Adequate sureties have to be given for the protection of the property on demand by the Custodian.

(c) The total expenditure so far incurred on the Custodian's establishment is Rs. 1,88,756.

(d) The draft rules under the old ordinance were prepared, but in view of the impending enactment of amending legislation, these were not put into operation. Fresh rules have been framed under the new law and will be published in consultation with the Ministry of Law. In the meantime the work is being done substantially on the basis of the draft rules.

To

The Custodian of Evacuee Property,
(BUSINESS SECTION),
'P' Block, Raisina Road,
NEW DELHI.

Sir,

Whereas you have taken possession of.....
bearing Municipal No..... in street.....
Road..... Sector....., Delhi, in your
capacity as Custodian of Evacuee Property, Delhi.

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

And whereas you are willing to allow the temporary occupation thereof to me as a Licencee on the condition that the possession of the said premises shall vest and remain with you and that I will merely be allowed temporary occupation thereof as a Licencee under you on the terms and conditions hereinafter stated.

I, therefore, confirm having agreed to occupy the said premises temporarily as a Licencee and will for the occupation thereof pay you a sum of Rs. every month.

I further undertake that I shall exhibit a signboard in the premises showing that I am appointed as a Licencee of the property in question and that my appointment as a Licencee does not confer any right to the allotment of the premises in my favour.

I further confirm having agreed that I shall be liable to be removed from the occupation thereof at 48 hours' notice by the Custodian or his nominee and in case of my refusal to do so, you shall have the right to summarily oust me without recourse to a court of law and to break open the premises and to evict me by use of such force as is necessary.

Declaration by the Sector Custodian concerned.

I beg to remain, Sir, Your most obedient servant, Licencee.

The Licence is duly signed and dated in my presence by the Executant.

Signature, Sector Custodian, Sector.....

Full name and..... address of the Executant in BLOCK LETTERS.

NEW DELHI, dated the.....1948 .

Bond for safe custody of moveable property left in charge of any person and sureties

Know all men by these presents that we..... of and are jointly and severally bound to the Custodian of Evacuees' property of..... area in the sum of Rs..... to be paid to the said Custodian, for which payment to be made we bind ourselves, and each of us, in the whole, our and each of our heirs, executors, and administrators, jointly and severally, by these presents.

Dated this.....day of.....1948.

And whereas the moveable property/livestock specified in the schedule herewith annexed has been handed over to and left in the charge of the said..... this.....day of.....1948.

Now the condition of this obligation is that, if the above bounden..... shall duly account for any loss which the owner of the property/livestock may suffer due to the wilful negligence of the bounden and produce, when required before the said Custodian all and every property/livestock aforesaid (and shall properly maintain and take due care of the livestock aforesaid) and shall obey any further order of the Custodian in respect thereof, then this obligation shall be void, otherwise it shall remain in full force and be enforceable against the above bounden.

- 1. 2. 3.

Signed and delivered by the above bounden in the presence of.....

Surety Bond.

Whereas the Saperdar Mr..... has been directed by the Custodian of Evacuees' property of..... area to furnish security in the sum of Rs..... to produce and place at the disposal of the Custodian the property specified in the Schedule herewith annexed.

Thereupon, I..... have voluntarily become surety and do hereby bind myself, my heirs and executors, to the said Custodian, that the said Saperdar shall produce and place at the disposal of the Custodian, when required, the property specified in the said schedule or the value of the same, and in default of his so doing, I bind myself, my heirs and executors, to pay to the said Custodian, at his order, the said sum of Rs.....

Witness my hand at.....this day of1948.
(Signed).

Witnesses :—

- (1)
- (2)

GOVERNMENT'S STATISTICAL PUBLICATIONS.

755. *Shri Biswanath Das: Will the Honourable Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India propose to publish all their statistical publications including the publication which was known as the Statistical Abstract of British India, and if so, when;

(b) the reason why these are not yet published; and

(c) whether the staff maintained under different organisations in this regard are kept up as they were or whether there is any reduction?

The Honourable Shri R. K. Shanmukham Chetty: (a) and (b). A list of the statistical publications which have hitherto been published by the Government of India is placed on the Table. These will continue to be published as heretofore. There has, however, unfortunately been some delay in their publication due in general to congestion of work in the Government Presses. Steps are being taken to remedy this defect and it is hoped that once the congestion ceases Government statistical publications will issue with regularity as before. The publication of the Statistical Abstract was postponed during the war on ground of paper economy, but special attention has now been devoted to bringing this publication up-to-date and ensuring that it reaches the public in time.

(c) As there has been no reduction in the work of compilation, the question of the reduction of staff does not arise.

LIST OF PUBLICATIONS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE AND STATISTICS, INDIA

Publications noted below are obtainable from—In India and Abroad excluding Europe and America. The Manager of Publications, Civil Lines, Delhi:—Sale Depot at 8, Hastings Street, Calcutta. In Europe and America:—The Secretary to the High Commissioner for India, "India House", Aldwych, London, W.C. 2; also from all agents for the sale of Government publications. Remittances should be made either through a bank or by postal or money order and should include forwarding (i.e., Packing and Postage) charges, where indicated in brackets after the price. In case of remittance by cheque it should be drawn in the name of either of the aforesaid officers concerned. Subscriptions are accepted only in terms of the official financial year commencing from 1st April, or, in the case of subscribers enlisting themselves within the currency of the year, for the entire period of the balance of the financial year but not extending beyond the close (i.e., 31st March) of the year.

All communications regarding supply on payment and subscriptions and all payments for subscriptions and advertisements should be made direct to any of the aforesaid officers as the case may be.

WHOLE

1. Indian Trade Journal, (Est'd. 1906)—Issued on Thursdays. Annual rate of subscription with Supplements and quarterly index:—Indian (including postage): Rs. 18, and Foreign (including postage)—(a) Europe and America: Rs. 23 and (b) others: Rs. 22, respectively. Single copies (including postage):—Current issue As. 6; Back numbers, when available, for any number over three months old Re 1 each; Foreign (including postage): As. 9 and Rs. 1-3-0 for current and back issues respectively.

[Orders may be placed, with prepayment, for particular issues of the Journal, e.g., issues containing Crop Forecasts or those having special supplements.]

2. Statistics of Rail and River-borne Trade—Weekly arrivals and despatches of certain staple commodities into and from selected trade centres for the four weeks from week ending 15th December, 1945 to week ending 5th January, 1946. Rs. 3-6-0 or 5s. 6d.

MONTHLY

3. Accounts relating to the Sea-borne Trade and Navigation of British India for December, 1946. Rs. 3-4-0 or 5s. 3d.

4. Monthly Statistics of Cotton Spinning and Weaving in Indian Mills, June and July, 1946. Rs. 1 or 1s. 6d. Yearly subscription Rs. 7-8-0 post free.

5. Monthly Statistics of the Production of certain Selected Industries of India, April and May, 1945. As. 14 or 1s. 3d.

6. Indian Customs and Central Excise Revenue for May, 1947. One anna or 1½d. Yearly subscription As. 12 post free.

7. Joint Stock Companies (registered in British India and in the Indian States of Hyderabad, Baroda, Mysore, Travancore and Cochin), September, 1944. Rs. 3 or 5s.

8. Trade at stations adjacent to Land Frontier Routes for March, 1944. Rs. 5-2-0 or 8s.

9. Raw Cotton Trade Statistics (Rail and River) for September, 1945. Rs. 2-2-0 or 3s. 6d.

10. Exports of Indian Artware and Sports Goods for March, 1946. Rs. 4-6-0 or 7s.

11. Trade Statistics relating to the Maritime States in Kathiawar and the State of Travancore, May 1945. Rs. 4-4-0 or 6s. 2d.

12. Accounts relating to the Coasting Trade and Navigation of British India for September, 1944. Rs. 3-4-0 or 5s. 3d.

13. Accounts relating to the Inland (Rail and River-borne) Trade of India for September, 1944. Rs. 2-2-0 or 3s. 6d.

14. Monthly Statement of wholesale prices of certain selected articles at various centres in India, March, 1946. Rs. 1-4-0 or 2s.

ANNUAL

15. Accounts relating to the Sea-borne Trade and Navigation of British India for the calendar year 1941. As. 6 or 7d.

16. Annual Statement of the Sea-borne Trade of British India with the British Empire and Foreign countries:—

Vol. I.—Abstract and detailed Tables of Imports and Exports for 1942-43 and 1943-44 (combined issue). Rs. 8-10-0 or 13s. 6d.

Vol. II.—Abstract and detailed Tables of Trade and Shipping with each country and at each Port, and Tables relating to the Trade of the French Possessions in India for the fiscal year ending 31st March, 1940 (74th issue). Rs. 20-4-0 or 31s.

17. Statistical Abstract for British India (with Statistics, where available, relating to certain Indian States) from 1920-31 to 1939-40 (18 issue). Rs. 6-10-0.

18. Agricultural Statistics of India:—

Vol. I.—British India—for 1938-39 (56th issue). Rs. 10 or 16s.

Vol. II.—Indian States—for 1938-39 (56th issue). Rs. 8 or 13s.

19. Agricultural Statistics of British India (Provisional), 1943-44 (30th issue). As. 8 or 9d.

20. Estimates of Area and Yield of Principal Crops in India, 1940-41 (43rd issue). Rs. 1-8-0 or 2s. 3d.

21. Indian Tea Statistics, 1940 (46th issue). As. 14 or 1s. 3d.

22. Indian Coal Statistics, 1943. Rs. 2-6-0 or 4s.

23. Indian Rubber Statistics, 1941-42 (23rd issue). Rs. 1-6-0 or 2s.

24. Indian Coffee Statistics, 1940-41 (22nd issue). As. 3 or 4d.

*25. List of cotton pressing factories with names of owners and particulars of marks allotted to them in the different Provinces of British India and certain Indian States for the season 1941-42 (17th issue). As. 12 or 1s. *Amendments for 1942-43. Rs. 1-4-0 or 2s.

26. Joint Stock Companies in British India and in the Indian States of Hyderabad, Mysore, Baroda, Owalhor, Indore, Travancore and Cochin, 1938-39 (25th issue). Rs. 14-12-0 or 23s.

27. Statistical Tables relating to Banks in India, 1938 (25th issue). Rs. 4-14-0 or 7s. 9d.
 *28. Statistical Statements relating to the Co-operative Movements in India during the year 1939-40 (22nd issue). Rs. 1-12-0 or 2s. 6d.

BIENNIAL

29. Large Industrial Establishments in India, 1942 (16th issue). Rs. 2-8-0 or 4s.

QUINQUENNIAL

30. Quinquennial Report on the average yield per acre of principal crops in India for the period ending 1936-37. Rs. 1-10-0 or 2s. 6d. (2a.).

31. Live-stock Statistics, India, 1940—Report on the Fifth Census of Live-stock and Agricultural Implements and Machinery held in 1940. Rs. 10 or 16s.

32. Index Numbers of Indian Prices, 1861—1931 (3rd issue). Rs. 1-2-0 or 2s. (5a.). Addenda for 1932, 1933, 1934, 1935, 1936, 1937, 1938, 1939 and 1940 are available. Price Anna 1 each or 1½d. (1a.).

33. Accounts of the Trade of the Portuguese Possessions in India for the nine calendar years 1926—34, (Supplement to Vol. II of the Annual Statement of the Sea-borne Trade of British India). Rs. 2-14-0 or 5s.

34. Quinquennial Catalogue of the Commercial Library corrected up to 30th April, 1932. Rs. 8 or 13s. 6d. Part II of the Catalogue (brought up to April, 1941). Rs. 10 or 16s.

PERIODICAL

35. Crop Forecasts. (The due months are in brackets and the price noted is for each issue.) (Also published in the Indian Trade Journal, vide item No.1.)

(i) Rice—1st (October), 2nd (December), Final (February). As. 3 or 4d.

(ii) Wheat—1st (January), 2nd (March), 3rd (April), 4th (May), Final (July). As. 3 or 4d.

(iii) Cotton—1st (August), 2nd (October), 3rd (December), 4th (February), Final (April). As. 3 or 4d.

(iv) Linseed, Rape and Mustard (Winter Oilseeds)—1st (January), 2nd (March), Final (June). As. 4 or 5d.

(v) Sesamum, til or jinjili—1st (September), 2nd (October), Final (January), Supplementary (April). As. 3 or 4d.

(vi) Groundnut—1st (August), 2nd (October), Final (February). As. 2 or 3d.

(vii) Sugarcane—1st (August), 2nd (October), Final (February). As. 2 or 3d.

(viii) Castorseed—February. As. 3 or 4d.

MISCELLANEOUS

36. Varietal Cotton Map of India.—Showing the tracts growing the different varieties of cotton according to the latest Revised Trade Classification, 1939. Re. 1.

[All communications relating to the supply of Maps on payment should be addressed to the Officer-in-Charge, Map Record and Issue Office, 13, Wood Street, Calcutta.]

37. Crop Atlas of India (1939 edition). Rs. 8-4-0 or 13s.

38. Alphabetical Index of the Commodities that enter into the Foreign Sea-borne Trade of British India (1938 edition). Rs. 2-12-0 or 5s.

39. Directory of Exporters of Indian Produce and Manufactures (including those of Burma). (9th edition). As. 9 or 10d.

40. Report for the year 1939-40 by the Indian Trade Agent, Kabul. Rs. 2-6-0 or 4s.

41. Report on the work of the Indian Government Trade Commissioner, Osaka, during 1939-40. Rs. 3-10-0 or 5s. 9d.

42. Report on the work of the Indian Government Trade Commissioner in East Africa, Mombasa, during 1939-40. Rs. 2-4-0 or 3s. 9d.

†SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTS TO THE "INDIAN TRADE JOURNAL"

43. Review of the Sugar Industry of India for the year ending 31st October, 1941. As. 6 or 7d. (Supplement to the issue of 21st December, 1944.)

44. Note on Tobacco. As. 4 or 5d. (Supplement to the issue of 15th July, 1937.)

45. Glossary of Jute Trade Terms. As. 3 or 4d. (Supplement to the issue of 18th September, 1924.)

*Subsequent issues are obtainable from the Officer-in-Charge, Agricultural Credit Department, Reserve Bank of India, Bombay, or from the Managers of the offices and branches of the Reserve Bank of India at Bombay, Calcutta, Delhi, Madras, Rangoon, Cawnpore, Karachi and Lahore, or from leading booksellers.

†Supplied free along with the copies of the "Indian Trade Journal".

46. Glossary of Raw Cotton Trade Terms. As. 7 or 8d. (Supplement to the issue of 21st June, 1928.)

47. Glossary of Terms relating to Hand-made Cotton Fabrica. As. 2 or 3d. (Supplement to the issue of 3rd July, 1930.)

48. Glossary of Terms relating to Hides, Skins and Leather. As. 8 or 9d. (Supplement to the issue of 12th January, 1933.)

49. Glossary of Terms relating to Cotton Manufactures (Mill-made). As. 4 or 5d. (Supplement to the issue of 11th July, 1935.)

50. Indian Customs Tariff (27th issue). Reprint of the First and Second Schedules appended to the Indian Tariff Act, XXXII of 1934 (as in operation on 1st January, 1947), showing the rates of Customs duties, including the additional duties levied under the Indian Finance Act, 1946, the Indian Tariff Act (Amendment) Ordinance, 1946 (Central Ordinance No. XXVI of 1946), The Indian Tariff Act (Second Amendment) Ordinance, 1946 (Central Ordinance No. XXVII of 1946) and the Cotton Textiles Fund Ordinance, 1944 (Central Ordinance No. XXXIV of 1944), levied on goods imported into, and exported from, British India, together with (1) the tariff values fixed for certain articles under Government of India, Commerce Department, Notification No. 73-T(6)/46, dated the 14th December, 1946, for the purpose of assessment of Customs duties with effect from the 1st January, 1947; (2) the rates of duty leviable on articles, the produce or manufacture of Burma under the Government of India, Finance Department (Central Revenues), Notification No. 39-Customs, dated the 7th June, 1941, as subsequently amended; (3) the rates of Excise duties leviable on articles produced or manufactured in British India; and (4) the rates of Cesses leviable on certain articles on export or otherwise, and the Tariff values fixed for certain articles under Government of India, Department of Agriculture, Notification No. F.7-1/46-Co., dated the 10th July, 1946, for the purpose of the assessment of the Agricultural Produce Cess with effect from the 10th July, 1946. As. 5 or 6d.

Shri Biswanath Das: Can the Honourable Minister give the probable date from which we can expect to get these publications?

The Honourable Shri R. K. Shanmukham Chetty: Steps have already been taken to resume the regular publication of these documents. As I said, one of the difficulties has been the very heavy congestion in the Government presses. I might inform the Honourable Member that the Commerce Ministry have acquired an independent press of their own. It is now under the process of erection and when that is completed the Ministry will be able to bring out their publications very regularly.

Shri K. V. Kamath: Is there any coordination or collaboration between the statistical departments of Government and private or non-official bodies engaged in statistical work?

The Honourable Shri R. K. Shanmukham Chetty: As a matter of fact the statistical activities of the Government of India are now far from satisfactory. We have still to go a long way before we can claim that we have got any really satisfactory statistical machinery and the whole question of making our statistical organisation perfect and ensuring coordination with such organisations as the Statistical Society in Calcutta is now under active consideration.

Shri Biswanath Das: May I know whether the Honourable the Finance Minister is aware of the fact that there is no machinery for the compilation of statistics in many of the provinces except Madras and Bombay and if so, whether any steps have been taken in this regard?

The Honourable Shri R. K. Shanmukham Chetty: The whole question of the establishment of a really competent statistical organisation for India is now under the very active consideration of the Government.

Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: With respect to these publications do Government propose to start from where they had left off or from the latest figures?

The Honourable Shri R. K. Shanmukham Chetty: Many of these documents have been brought up to date.

Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: As in the case of the Review of Trade and certain other publications which were suspended in 1943 or 1944, do Government propose to publish them as from 1945 or 1946 or start off from 1948?

The Honourable Shri R. K. Shanmukham Chetty: I presume the Honourable Member's question is whether back publications will also be printed. I am not sure what the idea of the Commerce Ministry is but I will pass on that suggestion to the Ministry.

Shri K. Santhanam: May I know if the publications of the Ministry of Commerce are published in the same press as the reports of the Parliament?

The Honourable Shri R. K. Shanmukham Chetty: There are a number of presses which do Government work. I do not know where the publications of the Commerce Ministry are now being done.

Shri K. Santhanam: Are they published with the same punctuality?

Shri B. P. Jhunjunwala: Is there any other source of knowing the actual position before the statistics are prepared and printed? Supposing you want to know the position as regards the sterling balances, import of capital goods or luxury goods, is there any other source of knowing these figures, even for the Ministers?

The Honourable Shri R. K. Shanmukham Chetty: Obviously so far as the public is concerned there is no question of any information being available until it is actually compiled. Whether it is actually printed or not is a comparatively minor matter. When the figures are once compiled and even before publication if any Honourable Member is interested in any of these figures, I am sure arrangements would be made to supply the figures to them. So far as the Ministers are concerned they try their best to keep themselves informed of the statistical position relating to various subjects.

Shri B. P. Jhunjunwala: Is there any time fixed within which these figures are to be compiled?

The Honourable Shri R. K. Shanmukham Chetty: I am not sure of any exact time limit.

Shri Biswanath Das: In view of the incomplete nature of the census publications of 1940-41 may I know whether Government have considered the need of making summaries from the rest of the census reports which have not been published and making them available to the public in the course of the publication of their statistical abstracts, etc.?

The Honourable Shri R. K. Shanmukham Chetty: I do not know if the Honourable Member is referring to the question of making the census publications more complete and more informed. If that is so I can assure him that we are taking steps to see that the next census is carried on on a more scientific and a more comprehensive basis.

Shri Ramnath Goenka: May I know whether the difficulties felt are in regard to the compilation of the figures or in regard to printing, or in regard to both?

The Honourable Shri R. K. Shanmukham Chetty: The difficulty in printing is due to the congestion in the press. With regard to the actual compilation it is my own personal view that our machinery is not perfect or satisfactory today.

Seth Govinddas: As far as the next census is concerned, has any definite

plan been made by the Government to see that it is more scientific than the past censuses, or is such a plan under consideration?

The Honourable Shri E. K. Shaamukham Chetty: I am sure a plan would be made if it has not already been made, because it is our desire to make the Census Report in the future a much more valuable document than it has been in the past. Even in the past it has been a very good document; in future it will be still more comprehensive.

**OCCUPATION OF SERVANTS QUARTERS OF GOVERNMENT BUNGALOWS BY
REFUGEE GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES.**

†766. *Giani Gurmukh Singh Musafar: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Works, Mines and Power be pleased to state whether Government are aware that the refugee Government servants living in servants' quarters of Government bungalows, have been served with notices to vacate these quarters?

(b) Do Government propose to direct Government Officers to allow the refugees to stay on in these servants quarters till they are provided with accommodation by the Estate Officer?

The Honourable Mr. Ras Ahmed Kidwai: (a) Persons who are in unauthorised occupation of some of the servants quarters attached to Government bungalows have been served with ejectment notices. It is, however, not known whether they are in Government service or not.

(b) Government have already issued an appeal to all Government officials to share accommodation with other Government officers or refugees and consider the response to this appeal satisfactory. They cannot however, compel the officers to accommodate particular individuals.

HOUSEHOLD EFFECTS LEFT LOCKED UP IN PAKISTAN BY REFUGEES

†767. *Shri Ram Sahai: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Relief and Rehabilitation be pleased to state the number of families who have left their household effects locked up in their houses in Pakistan?

(b) What is the number of houses which have been broken open and wherefrom goods have been removed?

(c) If some houses still remain locked, are there any arrangements by which the owners of these houses can bring their goods safely?

(d) What is the value of the goods that have been removed from these houses?

The Honourable Mr. Ras Ahmed Kidwai: (a) and (b). Government have no information.

(c) Under the provisions of the law governing the evacuee property in West Punjab these houses are probably in charge of the local Custodian of Evacuee Property to whom the owners can apply for permission to remove their goods.

(d) Government have no information.

Shri P. Kunhraman: Sir, with regard to Question No. 768 I desire to say that it may be treated as Unstarred.

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

Mr. Speaker: The Honourable Member does not want to put that Question?

Shri P. Kunhraman: No, Sir. I want to put Question No. 759.

INDIANS DETAINED IN LAHORE FOR ALLEGED PARTICIPATION IN RIOTS

758. *Shri P. Kunhraman (on behalf of **Shri V. C. Kesava Rao**): (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Relief and Rehabilitation be pleased to state the number of Indians who were detained in Lahore without trial for alleged participation in the riots?

(b) Is it a fact that there was an agreement that India would release Pakistan nationals so detained and Pakistan would release Indian nationals?

(c) Is it a fact that Pakistan is refusing to keep to her part of the agreement though most of the Pakistan personnel are released?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: (a) It is not understood what the Honourable Member implies by the term Indians. The question of nationality and citizenship are still undetermined pending their clarification and definition by the Constituent Assembly.

I assume that the Honourable Member means by this term the non-Muslims of West Punjab who are desirous of being evacuated to the territories of the Indian Dominion. Necessary information has been called for and will be laid on the table in due course.

(b) and (c). The Honourable Member is referred to the reply given by Honourable the Prime Minister to parts (a) and (b) of starred question No. 880 on the 21st February, 1948.

GOVERNMENT SERVANTS ALLOTTED QUARTERS UPTO FEBRUARY 1948

759. *Shri P. Kunhraman (on behalf of **Shri V. C. Kesava Rao**): (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Works, Mines and Power be pleased to state:

(i) the number of Government servants who are allotted Government quarters upto February 29th, 1948; and

(ii) the number of persons who are yet to be provided with quarters?

(b) What do Government propose to do in the matter of providing houses for those who are not provided with quarters at present?

(c) Do Government propose to direct those who are provided with quarters at present to share them with others?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: (a) A statement showing the information asked for is placed on the table of the House.

(b) The Government of India have not undertaken to provide residential accommodation for all their staff; nor is it a condition of service under Government. They have however decided to construct about 8500 additional quarters, the details of which have been mentioned in the House on other occasions. In the case of low paid Government servants who have not been allotted Government quarters, house rent allowance is paid.

(c) Government have already issued an appeal to all Government servants to share the accommodation at their disposal with other Government servants or refugees.

Statement

Showing under of Government servants allotted accommodation up to 29th February 1948 and those not yet provided with quarters.

	Total No. of application	Total No. allotted accommodation upto 29-2-48	No. of Officers unprovided with Government accommodation
Officer drawing Rs. 600 P. M. and above.	2,655	1,924	731
Officers drawing less than Rs. 600 p. m.	23,693	9,103	14,590
Class IV Government Servants	19,219	2,576	16,643

Shri H. V. Kamath: Arising out of answer to part (c), do Honourable Ministers propose to share their commodious bungalows with M.C.As. so that the M.L.As' bungalows can be allotted to other Government servants?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. It is going into an argument.

Mr. B. K. Sridhva: May I know what is the policy of Government for providing quarters for the low-paid staff, namely the *patwallas* and the sweepers?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: I think the House is aware that the C.P.W.D. has undertaken more construction, and that was mentioned in this House during the debate on the Budget.

Shrimati G. Durgabai: May I know what is the basis on which these quarters are allotted? Is it on the basis of their pay or on the size of their family?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: Rent has to be paid for every house and therefore the allotment is according to the pay.

Prof. Shikhan Lal Saksena: Will the Honourable Minister consider the advisability of providing quarters for all Government employees, in view of the extreme difficulty of housing in Delhi?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: Yes, steps have been taken to undertake construction that will provide housing for all those who want to reside in Delhi, whether they are officials or non-officials.

Mr. Frank E. Anthony: Is it not a fact, Sir, that in spite of the acute shortage of available accommodation for Government servants, Government Departments are sought to be shifted down from Simla to Delhi?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: I think some Departments have under consideration the shifting of some offices from Simla to Delhi. But that may be due to the shortage in Simla also where the East Punjab Government is for the present accommodated.

Mr. Frank E. Anthony: What is the need of shifting the Public Services Commission, which employs 100 persons, to Delhi when it has been functioning perfectly all right in Simla for the last five years?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: I think the Honourable Member is aware that for the last few weeks the members of the Commission have been functioning in Delhi, and now they are expected to be busy throughout the year; administrative convenience requires it that their offices should be shifted to Delhi.

Mr. Frank E. Anthony: Will Government find accommodation for all these employees or will they be required to live on the streets?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: Government will do all that is necessary to provide accommodation.

Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: Arising out of answer to (c), may I know how far the Government servants have been directed to share their quarters with other Government servants or with refugees?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: Not directed but requested.

Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: But has the request been adopted or implemented?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: That depends on the individual convenience of the officers. Whether to take others or not depends on the extent they can accommodate others.

Prof. Shibban Lal Saksena: May I know by what date Government hope to provide quarters for all Government servants?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: No date can be fixed.

Shri Mihir Lal Chattopadhyay: In view of the fact that quite a large number of Government servants have rented out part of their houses, will Government enquire into the matter and make a list of those officers and find out whether they have rented out at a black-market rate?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: In some Departments this step has been taken and whenever it is found that they have rented out their houses they themselves are liable to be ejected from that house and the house allotted to others who stand in need of it.

Shrimati G. Durgabai: May I know whether the Government would be pleased to consider the desirability of taking the size of the family also into consideration in making further allotments?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: Who are the members of the family and who are not, that is also disputed.

CHARGING OF *Pugree* FROM TENANTS BY DELHI LANDLORDS.

1760. ***R. B. Lal Raj Kanwar**: Will the Honourable Minister of Works, Mines and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that, in Delhi, landlords at the time of letting out their premises including houses, shops, godowns etc., charge from their new tenants, in addition to rent, a huge sum by way of premium known as "*Pugree*";

(b) whether Government are aware that this evil is wide-spread; and

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

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: (a), (b) and (c). The mal-practices referred to by the Honourable Member on the part of unscrupulous landlords was brought to the notice of the Government and in order to prevent them and to make such unlawful acts punishable by law, provision has been made in section 5 and 13(2) of the Delhi and Ajmer-Merwara Rent Control Act, 1947 (NIX of 1947). As provided therein any person from whom rent in excess of the standard rent of the premises is demanded is free to institute a suit against the landlord in a Court of Law.

RETURN OF ONLY OLD NON-MUSLIM ABDUCTED WOMEN BY WEST PUNJAB GOVERNMENT.

761. ***Shri Brajeshwar Prasad**: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Relief and Rehabilitation be pleased to state whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the news published in the *Hindustan Times* dated the 29th February, 1948 that seven hundred non-Muslim abducted women and children were recently returned to the East Punjab authorities by the Government of West Punjab?

(b) Is it a fact that all the women returned were old?

(c) Is it a fact that two hundred non-Muslim young women, though recovered earlier, were later taken away by the West Punjab Police officials either to Peshawar or to Bahawalpur where there was no recovery campaign?

(d) Is it a fact that this was revealed by recovered women only after their arrival in East Punjab territory?

(e) What steps do Government propose to take in order to recover the two hundred young women who have been forcibly detained in Pakistan?

(f) Do Government propose to refer the details of this case to the Security Council of the United Nations Organisation?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: (a) Yes.

(b) In some batches the number of old women predominated but figures for the months of January and February 1948 show that the different age groups have been spread out satisfactorily.

(c), (d), (e) and (f). Government are making enquiries from their representative at Lahore. The information, when received, will be laid on the table and necessary action will be taken.

Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: How many of these women were below twentyfive and how many were above twentyfive?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: I require notice of that question.

Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: Is it not apparent from the question itself—part (b) wherein it is asked whether all the women returned were old?

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

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: All of them were not old.

Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: What is the age limit set by the Honourable Minister for classifying them as 'old'?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: I will require notice of that.

Shri H. V. Kamath: Has the Honourable Minister's attention been drawn to press reports to the effect that the Pakistan Government have instructed Maulvis to intensify the conversion of young women?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: I am afraid I have not seen the report. But I may say that press reports are not always reliable.

Seth Govinddas: But as far as these press reports are concerned, does the Government not refer these press reports to the Pakistan Government and find out what their attitude is?

Sr. my question has not been answered.

Mr. Speaker: It is not going to be answered.

Prof. Shibban Lal Saksena: Will the Honourable Minister kindly supply the figures to the House by age groups of the women recovered?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: I will pass on the suggestion to the Ministry concerned.

Shri H. V. Kamath: Do Government propose to recover young women also as soon as possible?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: Every attempt is being made in that direction.

ACTIVITIES OF CENTRAL WATER-POWER, IRRIGATION AND NAVIGATION COMMISSION.

762. *Shri B. N. Munavalli: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Works, Mines and Power be pleased to state whether the Central Water-power, Irrigation and Navigation Commission has submitted to Government any annual reports about its work and various activities?

(b) If not, why has it not submitted the reports?

(c) With what objectives in view, was this Commission brought into existence?

(d) How far have these objectives been achieved or attempted to be achieved so far?

(e) Are the technical officers of the Commission appointed on a competitive basis or are they drawn from different provincial cadres in proportion to any accepted basis?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: (a) No. But the Government of India have been kept informed of its activities through monthly progress reports, weekly conferences with the Ministry of Works, Mines and Power attended mostly by the Chairman of the Central Water-power, Irrigation and Navigation Commission and through various reports of the Chairman on almost all important aspects of the work.

(b) The Commission was set up in April 1945, but due to the non-availability of staff and pressure of work due to enormous demands made by a large number

of schemes, no annual report was written. The position as regards technical staff has now fairly improved and the report is under preparation which will be ready by about April 1948.

(c) The functions of the Commission were laid down in the Labour Department's Resolution No. DW.101(2), dated the 5th April 1945 and the more recent resolution of Government No. DW.XVI-1(1), dated the 16th January 1948, copies of which are laid on the table!

(d) In spite of the paucity of the staff available as stated above, several multipurpose river development schemes of stupendous magnitude have already been taken up in hand e.g. the Kosi Project in Nepal and Bihar and the Mahanadi Project in Orissa. Considerable progress has already been made as regards the investigation of the Kosi Project. In the case of the Mahanadi Project, investigations have reached a stage when detailed estimates for the Hirakud dam could be drawn up and construction work started on it.

In addition to the above, several reconnaissance surveys were made with a view to ascertain the possibility of developing the water resources of Assam, Central Provinces, Bastar State, Coorg, Bombay and Baroda and estimates for investigations of specific schemes have already been submitted to Government.

The agency of the Central Water-power, Irrigation and Navigation Commission is also being utilised in settling inter-provincial and inter-state river disputes. For instance, the Tungabhadra dispute between Madras, Mysore and Hyderabad which had been pending for nearly 40 years has been settled by the Chairman. The disputes between Madras and Hyderabad regarding the Ramapadaagar project, between Coorg and Mysore regarding the Lakshmanatirtha Project, between Bombay and Baroda in connection with the Sabarmati project and between some of the Rajputana States regarding the Chambal development scheme etc. have been referred to the Commission. These cases are in various stages of settlement.

Another important function of the Commission is to give expert advice to Provincial and State Governments on technical matters and that is being done as and when requests are received. Expert advice has been given by the Commission on the flood and other river problems in Assam, irrigation problems in Bengal and Bihar, flood control, irrigation and other river problems in Bombay and a large number of States.

(e) The posts of Deputy Directors and above are generally filled by suitable officers drawn from the cadre of Provincial Governments. The other posts i.e. from the rank of Assistant Directors and below are filled by open competition on the recommendation of the Federal Public Service Commission.

Every effort has been made to draw more or less equally from all provinces, but the response has not been encouraging. Selection therefore, had to be limited to the officers made available by the Provinces.

Seth Govinddas: As far as the Central Provinces is concerned, is the scheme of Nerbada before the Commission; and if it is, what progress has been made in that direction?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: All these schemes were before this Commission and I think the Honourable Member remembers the reply that was given in this House on a supplementary question put by the Honourable Member himself. If he requires more information I will pass on the request to the Minister concerned.

Seth Govinddas: As far as my supplementary question is concerned that was put about six months ago. I want to know what progress has been made during the last six months.

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

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: I will require notice.

Shri B. Das: Is it not paradoxical that in the same breath the Minister says that the Irrigation and Navigation Commission could not produce its report for want of men or for want of staff and at the same time attributes to the same Commission, all the good work that has been done in the matter of development projects all over India? Is not that paradoxical?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. That is a matter of opinion.

Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: May I know from the Honourable Minister if men for appointments below Assistant Officers are originally recruited on a temporary basis and later on before the Federal Service Commission the Chairman himself is there and he chooses the very same person?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: It often happens that somebody from the Department is co-opted to assist the Commission. But what exactly happened in this Department, I do not know.

Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: May I know whether it is not a fact that all the appointments are being made from one particular province, instead of their being distributed over the various provinces?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: May be that residents of a particular province shine in competition.

Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: May I ask the Honourable Minister whether it is not possible to associate independent technical men to assist the Federal Public Service Commission in the matter of selection?

Pandit Balkrishna Sharma: Is it not a question for the Honourable the Home Minister to answer?

Mr. Speaker: He is asking so far as this Department is concerned

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: The rule as it stands now is that the advice of the Department is sought. I shall, however, pass on the Honourable Member's suggestion for consideration.

Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: As regards the several schemes undertaken, may I know what has happened to them; for instance, we had a snow survey scheme which was undertaken and for which one Mr. Church was brought all the way from England. Has he sent in his report?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: I am not sure whether it arises out of this question. But if the Honourable Member puts me a specific question, I shall be prepared to answer it.

PROGRESS IN EXECUTION OF DAMODAR VALLEY PROJECT

763. *Shri Ramnarayan Singh: Will the Honourable Minister of Works, Mines and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether any actual work, in connection with the execution of the proposed Damodar Valley Project, has been taken up; and, if so, what and where;

(b) whether any lands have been acquired; if so, how much, from whom and at what price;

(c) whether any contract has been given; and, if so to whom, for what work and for what amount;

(d) what steps Damodar Valley Corporation has proposed in order to obtain the co-operation of the people of the area of operation; and

(e) what policy the Damodar Valley Corporation follows in matters of appointment and contract to see that the local people, too, are benefited?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: (a) A great deal of work in respect of the Damodar Valley Project has been done in the last two years e.g. preliminary investigation of the project, detailed designs, plans and estimates of the Tilaiya Project, preliminary designs for the other dams, setting up of organization for building construction camps at Tilaiya dam site, and building of construction camp at Maithon.

(b) No land has been permanently acquired so far. A small area near Maithon was temporarily acquired for two years since April 1946.

(c) No contract has been given out so far. The construction camp at Maithon was built by the military.

(d) and (e). The matter is under consideration of the Administrator, Damodar Valley Project in consultation with the participating Governments. The Damodar Valley Corporation has not yet come into existence.

Shri H. V. Kamath: Has anybody been deputed by Government to study the working and administration of the Tennessee Valley Authority in America?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: Yes; it was done.

Shri H. V. Kamath: Who has been deputed, Sir?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: I will require notice of that question.

Shri Ramnarayan Singh: Has the personnel of the Corporation been settled?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: It is under consideration.

Shri Ramnarayan Singh: Has the Chairman been appointed?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: The Chairman has not been appointed.

Shri Ramnarayan Singh: Is it a fact that so far as contracts are concerned, they are given only to those people who are registered as Government contractors in Delhi?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: Well, Sir, all the contractors who are registered as contractors in the P.W. Department will be eligible to apply for contracts.

Shri Ramnarayan Singh: Registered in Delhi?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: No, registered throughout the country.

DELAY IN METALLING OF A PORTION OF MADHOPUR-JAMMU ROAD

764. Pandit Hirday Nath Kunzru: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Works, Mines and Power be pleased to state whether Government are aware that the road connecting Madhopur with Jammu is in a bad condition up to Sambha and that it causes considerable delay in the arrival of the vehicles running on it at their destination?

(b) Are Government aware that in spite of its military importance no portion of the road has yet been metalled?

(c) Are Government aware that the metalling of the road is being delayed on account of the delay in the transport of the necessary material and the damage caused to the machinery sent from Madhopur?

(d) Has any date been fixed by which the road should be ready? If not, why not?

(e) Are Government aware that in some of the places where the road construction work is to be carried, little or no military protection has been provided?

(f) Are Government aware that a new labour force is recruited daily and that wages have risen considerably owing to want of security?

(g) Do Government propose to entrust the construction of the road to the military authorities?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: (a) Yes.

(b) It is not proposed to metal the existing road. Its surface is 'shingled' as required.

(c) Presumably the Honourable Member is referring to another road connecting Madhopur with Sambha which is now under construction. If so, the answer is that some delay has been caused but every effort is being made to minimise it.

(d) The answer to the first part is in the affirmative. The second part does not arise.

(e) Arrangements have been made for military protection.

(f) Although some reshuffling has occurred it would not be correct to say that a new labour force is recruited daily. There has been some rise of wages but not of very serious nature.

(g) No.

Pandit Hirday Nath Kunzru: Why did not Government entrust its construction to the Military Authorities?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: The Military Authorities were of course consulted. But they said that it would make no difference.

Pandit Hirday Nath Kunzru: Does the Honourable Minister mean to suggest that the same delay would have taken place even if the Military Authorities had undertaken the construction of the road?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: The same difficulties would have been faced by them.

Pandit Hirday Nath Kunzru: Are Government aware of the fact that during the war the construction of important projects was well programmed and a date was fixed by which construction should be completed?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: Yes.

Pandit Hirday Nath Kunzru: Why has not that practice been adopted in the case of this road?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: I have already said that the Defence Department was consulted and they were asked whether they would be in a position to construct the road in a shorter time than the P.W.D. But they said that as most of the labour would have to be recruited by the civil department, it would not make much difference whether the P.W.D. undertook the construction, or whether they themselves did it.

Pandit Hirday Nath Kunzru: What I mean to ask is why was not a target date appointed for the completion of certain portions of the road.

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: A target date was fixed.

Pandit Hirday Nath Kunzru: Why has not target been observed?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: We have not yet reached that date.

Pandit Hirday Nath Kunzru: What was the target date?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: It is the end of June 1948.

Pandit Hirday Nath Kunzru: June 1948?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: How could that be the date when the construction had not even started?

Pandit Hirday Nath Kunzru: Do Government want this road to be constructed after the operations are over? Is it one of their long-term projects?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: Government would not like to wait for the completion of the operations till the road is ready.

Pandit Hirday Nath Kunzru: Is it a fact that some of the machinery sent from Madhopur to a place where the road is being constructed has been damaged?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: I require notice of that question.

Pandit Hirday Nath Kunzru: But that is part of the question.

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: Then the reply covers it.

Pandit Hirday Nath Kunzru: What is the reply?

Mr. Speaker: The Honourable Member is referring to part (c) of his question. The Honourable Minister may read his reply to that part of the question.

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: (c) Presumably the Honourable Member is referring to another road connecting Madhopur with Sambha which is now under construction. If so, the answer is that some delay has been caused but every effort is being made to minimise it. There has been some delay, I admit.

Pandit Hirday Nath Kunzru: But has any damage been caused to the machinery?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: Damage was caused to the road, that is true.

Pandit Hirday Nath Kunzru: My question is whether any damage was caused to the machinery despatched from Madhopur.

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: I am sorry I have not got that information, but I will ask the Ministry to supply it to the Honourable Member.

Pandit Hirday Nath Kunzru: But how did Government omit to answer a specific question put to them? Will Government look carefully into the question of the construction of the road at an early date?

The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai: Yes.

NEW TAXATION PROSPECTS BY FRENCH AUTHORITIES AND INDIAN BUSINESS INTERESTS, ETC. IN INDO-CHINA

755. *Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Commerce be pleased to state whether Government are aware of the hardships to which the Indian Nationals in Indo-China owning properties and business interests are subjected, by the taxation proposals recently published by the French authorities in Indo-China, whereas the Chinese Nationals in Indo-China are, by virtue of a Special Treaty arrangement between the Governments of France and China, exempt therefrom?

(b) Has any representation been made by the Indian Nationals in Indo-China in this behalf?

(c) If so, what action have Government taken so far or propose to take to safeguard the interests of Indians?

(d) Do Government propose to consider the advisability of making suitable representations to secure just and equitable treatment to the Indians in Indo-China?

The Honourable Shri R. K. Shanmukham Chetty: The question should have been addressed to the Honourable the Prime Minister. It has accordingly been transferred to the list of questions for 22nd March 1948, when the Honourable the Prime Minister will answer it.

DEBT SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT WITH FRENCH GOVERNMENT OF INDO-CHINA

766. *Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Commerce be pleased to state whether the Debt Settlement Agreement with the French Government of Indo-China which was hoped to be completed soon, has been reached? If not, why not?

(b) Is any other alternative proposal under contemplation of Government for giving relief to the Indian Nationals who have been put to considerable hardship on account of the blockade of remittances from Indo-China?

The Honourable Shri R. K. Shanmukham Chetty: (a) An agreement has been reached between the Government of India and the French Government on all the points that were under discussion. The formalities connected with the actual signature of the Agreement have, however, still to be gone through.

(b) No, none that I am aware of.

Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: May I ask the Honourable Minister if he will place the agreement on the table of the House?

The Honourable Shri R. K. Shanmukham Chetty: The agreement has not yet been signed. The last outstanding point under discussion was settled only a few days back and the implementation of the agreement by the exchange of letters is just now going on, and I expect that within the course of one month the agreement will be signed and then the question of placing it on the table will arise.

Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: Will the Honourable Minister take the House into confidence regarding the proposals before they are finalized in as much as they are not up to the expectations of nationals whose property is heavily involved?

The Honourable Shri R. K. Shanmukham Chetty: I do not know, Sir, whether, in carrying on negotiations with a foreign government, the actual subject matter of the negotiation could be placed before the House. I think they could trust the Government to do all that lies in its power to see that the interests of Indian nationals in Indo-China are safeguarded.

Shri K. Santhanam: May I know if the treaty is subject to ratification by this House?

The Honourable Shri R. K. Shanmukham Chetty: I do not know what the position is.

Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: Is it not the practice to bring Trade Treaties for ratification in this House like the Ottawa Agreement and so on?

The Honourable Shri R. K. Shanmukham Chetty: I do not know what exactly is going to be the procedure in this case. I am unable to answer that question just now.

Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: May I know when Government expects this agreement to be finalized?

The Honourable Shri R. K. Shanmukham Chetty: Within one month.

Shri Biswanath Das: May I know whether the agreement would be placed before the Standing Committee at least?

The Honourable Shri R. K. Shanmukham Chetty: So far as I am aware, the terms of the agreement have been practically concluded. It is only formal signature that is now to be made. I do not know whether it will be serving any useful purpose at this stage to consult the Standing Committee of the Ministry concerned.

Mr. Hussain Imam: May I ask whether as a matter of practice the Standing Committee would be consulted in future before negotiations are finalized in respect of agreements of this kind?

Mr. Speaker: I am afraid the question is hypothetical.

Mr. Hussain Imam: Why was the Standing Committee not consulted with reference to this agreement before finalizing it?

The Honourable Shri R. K. Shanmukham Chetty: I do not know when exactly the negotiations relating to this agreement were really started, and obviously I am not in a position to give any reason as to why the Standing Committee of the Ministry concerned was not consulted.

Shri Biswanath Das: May I know whether the Honourable the Finance Minister will please tell us whether in future Government will think of taking at least the Standing Committee of the Department concerned into confidence in such questions before they are finalized?

The Honourable Shri R. K. Shanmukham Chetty: That matter will be kept in view.

Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: May I ask the Honourable Minister if the Government will defer taking action on the release of assets of Indo-China in the country until the Assembly has got an opportunity to look into the agreement?

The Honourable Shri R. K. Shanmukham Chetty: I am afraid that that undertaking cannot be given because when that agreement is finalized, I think we will have to release that amount belonging to the Indo-China Bank which is held by the Custodian of Enemy Property. I do not think that can be delayed.

Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: Is there a reciprocal agreement that simultaneously the assets of Indian nationals of Indo-China will also be released?

The Honourable Shri R. K. Shanmukham Chetty: The Honourable Member is trying to find out the various clauses of the agreement by the supplementary question. I am afraid it will not be proper at this stage to disclose all the terms of the agreement, but he may rest assured that the Government have, during these negotiations, taken every step to protect the interests of Indian residents in Indo-China.

Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: I am only asking the Honourable Minister if care will be taken to see that action is not merely one-sided but correspondingly as and when releases are made of Indo-China assets here, simultaneously releases will be made at the other end of assets of Indian nationals also.

The Honourable Shri B. K. Shanmukham Chetty: It will be on a reciprocal basis.

Prof. Shibban Lal Saksona: Will the House be taken into confidence before the agreement is signed?

Mr. Speaker: That question has been answered.

LISTS OF CONSUMER GOODS ALLOWED AND NOT ALLOWED TO BE IMPORTED IN INDIA

767. *Dr. V. Subramaniam: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Commerce be pleased to give a list of the articles of consumer goods now allowed to be imported into India from foreign countries and also a list of articles which were formerly allowed to be imported but are now prohibited from being imported into India?

(b) Is any preference shown to medicines and medicinal articles?

The Honourable Shri B. K. Shanmukham Chetty: (a) I may invite the attention of the Honourable Member to the Ministry of Commerce Public Notice, dated the 12th December 1947 (reproduced in the *Gazette of India, Extraordinary* of the same date) and the Public Notice, dated the 4th March 1948 which lay down the principles governing the issue of import licences for the half yearly period January-June 1948. Classes of goods including consumer items, imports of which will not be licensed or for which licences will be issued freely, have been specified in these Notices and accompanying appendices; articles not specified in either lists are licensed on a restricted basis. It has not been possible to prepare the specific lists required, but the Honourable Member will appreciate that the time and labour involved in the preparation of the lists in question will hardly be commensurate with the object achieved. The Public Notices that I referred to just now have been given due publicity and copies thereof are available in the Library of the Legislature.

(b) Yes. Government realise the necessity for importation of such drugs and medicines as are essential and are not manufactured in this country and they have made provisions so as to allow adequate imports of these goods.

Dr. V. Subramaniam: May I know if alcoholic drinks come under prohibited articles?

The Honourable Shri B. K. Shanmukham Chetty: I have referred the Honourable Member to two notifications issued by the Commerce Ministry, and these contain very elaborate lists. Obviously the Honourable Member cannot expect me to remember every item which has been included in one particular list or another.

Shri Ramnath Goenka: Have those lists been strictly adhered to or has any departure been made from those lists in various cases?

The Honourable Shri B. K. Shanmukham Chetty: The lists are adhered to and if any departure is made, it will be for very valid reasons.

Pandit Lakshmi Kanta Maitra: Is there any periodical review of these lists?

The Honourable Shri B. K. Shanmukham Chetty: What we do is that in the light of our foreign exchange position, we prepare an advance programme of our export and import, and with a view to conserve foreign exchange, we take care to see that as far as possible we restrict the import of what we consider to be non-essential commodities, and that is the principle involved even in the preparation of the lists, and if in the course of the half year it is brought to our notice that any particular item should be included in the list of essentialities, then certainly we will do it.

Seth Govinddas: Is it not a fact, Sir, that in these lists even such articles are included which are available in India like perfumery, etc.?

The Honourable Shri B. K. Shanmukham Chetty: No. As a matter of fact, in view of the exchange difficulties we take particular care to see that we do not import commodities which are really manufactured in India and which are available in India in sufficient quantities to meet the demand.

Seth Govinddas: Are such articles also included in the lists of which there may be alternative articles in this country and we can do without importing those articles?

The Honourable Shri B. K. Shanmukham Chetty: As I said our exchange difficulties compel us to be very careful in the preparation of the import lists, out if it can be brought to the notice of the Government that any particular item included in the lists is one which is available in India, we will be very thankful to the Honourable Member if he supplies that information.

Shri B. P. Jhunjhunwala: Arising out of the answer given by the Honourable Minister that there are certain articles for which licences are given freely, may I know what is the meaning of the word 'freely' there, in view of the exchange restrictions?

The Honourable Shri B. K. Shanmukham Chetty: 'Free' means that there is no restriction on the import of those goods, that is that anybody who applies for an import licence for that category of goods is given the licence automatically. That is the meaning of the 'free' list.

Shri H. V. Kamath: May I know, Sir, whether there are any goods on which no import duty is levied—which are duty free?

The Honourable Shri B. K. Shanmukham Chetty: That is a very wide question. Our Import Schedule is quite an artistic document which I would recommend to the Honourable Member.

Shri Mihir Lal Chattopadhyay: May I know whether the Honourable Minister is aware that licence for importation of silk and silk goods from Italy has been given by the Government of India and that it is adversely affecting the silk industry in our country?

The Honourable Shri B. K. Shanmukham Chetty: I am not personally aware of it; if the silk industry in India is affected, naturally I would expect the silk industry to make proper representations to the Government.

Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: May I know, Sir, whether in the preparation of this list the trade was taken into confidence—whether the trade interests or any Associations or Organisations were consulted?

The Honourable Shri B. K. Shanmukham Chetty: I am afraid I cannot give an answer to that question; I do not know who were all consulted with regard to the preparation of this list.

Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: May I know, Sir, if as a rule articles of luxury are prohibited or a portion of them also allowed in this list?

The Honourable Shri B. K. Shanmukham Chetty: Generally articles of luxury are prohibited, and I think it is in very exceptional cases that you will find such articles in this list at all.

Shri Mihir Lal Chattopadhyay: May I draw the attention of Government to the fact that due to the importation of silk from Italy the Government of India has been suffering a loss on the silk that the Government of India got by way of reparations from Japan?

The Honourable Shri B. K. Shanmukham Chetty: I do not think we got any reparations by way of silk from Japan; I do not think we did.

Shri Mihir Lal Chattopadhyay: I beg to submit that I received a letter from the All-India Village Industries Association.....

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyanger: Is the Government aware that the entry of articles from America, such as motor cars, is restricted into the United Kingdom on account of dollar shortage?

The Honourable Shri B. K. Shanmukham Chetty: It is so and that is also our policy. We very strictly limit the number of cars to be imported. As a matter of fact, I may inform the Honourable Member that with a view to make as many cars available to the people as possible within the limits of the exchange available to us, we have put a ceiling on the price of cars; above that ceiling, cars are not admitted into India, for instance big cars will not be admitted into India.

Mr. B. K. Sidhva: What is the minimum price of the car?

The Honourable Shri B. K. Shanmukham Chetty: I do not exactly remember the ceiling price. But, for example, you do not have the importation during this half-year of the Buicke Roadmaster which costs about Rs. 17,000.

Mr. B. K. Sidhva: What are the other cars which will be admitted?

The Honourable Shri B. K. Shanmukham Chetty: The smaller-size and the medium-size cars, for instance the Chevrolet, the Ford etc.

Mr. B. K. Sidhva: Is it a fact that Government have issued a licence to a Company for import of cars up to Rs. 80 lakhs?

Mr. Speaker: That question was put and the matter discussed previously.

Pandit Balkrishna Sharma: May I know, Sir, whether Government are aware of the fact that out of a total sanction of Rs. 2 crores for the importation of cars, Rs. 96 lakhs worth licence has gone to one particular dealer in the country?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. That was discussed on a Cut Motion.

GENERAL BUDGET—LIST OF DEMANDS—*contd.*

SECOND STAGE—*co'd.*

Mr. Speaker: The House will now proceed with discussion in respect of Budget Demands. I am informed that the Honourable Mr. Gadgil will be in charge, on behalf of Government, in respect of the cut motions coming under discussion today. He is on his way by air from Vizagapatam; and he is expected to be here very shortly. In the meanwhile, the Demands may be put before the House and Honourable Members may proceed with the discussion of the cuts. Notes are being taken not only by the Honourable Ministers here, but, I understand the Secretaries who are in the Official Gallery are also doing so and Mr. Gadgil will reply when he comes. He is expected any moment. So I shall put the Demands

DEMAND NO.13.—MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS.

Mr. Speaker: Motion is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 34,75,000 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 Home Affairs'."

DEMAND NO. 27—MINISTRY OF STATES

Mr. Speaker: Motion is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 7,23,000 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 States'."

DEMAND NO. 87—RELATIONS WITH INDIAN STATES

Mr. Speaker: Motion is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 71,48,000 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 'Relations with Indian States'."

DEMAND NO. 14—MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING

Mr. Speaker: Motion is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,02,60,000 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 Information and Broadcasting'."

I do not see any economy cut here. So we shall follow the usual procedure of discussion without taking up any time in moving the cut motions, I believe.

(1) DEMAND NO. 13—MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

(2) DEMAND NO. 27—MINISTRY OF STATES

(3) DEMAND NO. 87—RELATIONS WITH INDIAN STATES

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta (Delhi): I would seek your permission, Sir, to move the two cut motions which stand in my name.

Mr. Speaker: Is it necessary for the Honourable Member to move them?

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: I would like them to go on record, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: He can discuss these two items. However, if he is keen on moving them, I have no objection.

Administration of Chief Commissioners Provinces

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: I would not take any time on it, Sir. Sir, I move:

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

Mr. Speaker: Cut motion moved:

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

Security Measures in Centrally Administered Areas and Re-organisation of Central Intelligence Bureau.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: Sir, I move:

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

Mr. Speaker: Cut motion moved:

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

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: Before I make any observation on these motions, Sir, may I ask your permission to deal with both these motions together and in view of the fact that they relate to the Chief Commissioners' Provinces and I and Mr. Mukut Bihari Lal are the only two representatives of the Chief Commissioners' Provinces, request you kindly allow me some more time.

Mr. Speaker: I think, I might make the position clear to the Honourable Member. The whole Demand is before the House and therefore it covers all

the three cut motions. It was made very clear that in view of the pressure of time and with a view to give opportunities to all, the Honourable Members will restrict themselves to the time-limit, irrespective of the number of cut motions that they move. The fact that they are going to move a large number of cuts is not a reason that they should get more time. The Honourable Member will appreciate that one and a quarter hours only are allotted to this Demand. That works out, as I have been saying, to 75 minutes, out of which 20 minutes will be taken by the Honourable Minister for reply. That will leave 55 minutes and if each of the Honourable Members is given time of 15 minutes for each cut motion 45 minutes will be taken for three cuts and then only 10 minutes will be left to other members of the House. That is hardly a fair arrangement. If the Honourable Members do not wish to speak, that is a different matter, but in fairness to other parties—these are all cut motions of the Congress Party—the non-Congress members of the House must have an opportunity and not be left with barely ten minutes. That is why it is not possible to grant him more time.

Prof. Shibban Lal Saksena (U.P. General): Could not other motions be moved formally?

Mr. Speaker: I have made that position very clear yesterday. Moving a motion does not imply the right to speak on it. If that was the point at the back of Mr. Deshbandhu Gupta's mind, then it was a mistaken one. Although, ordinarily, I would call upon a member who has tabled a motion to speak, in this context, the moving of a motion does not necessarily imply the right to speak. In fact, the cut motion need not necessarily be moved. If the Honourable Member is keen, he may move it, but the difficulty of moving is that it takes time in moving and my putting it and then again there is the procedure of withdrawing it. Therefore, only such motions as are desired to be put to the vote of the House should be moved. Otherwise, the whole field is open for discussion.

Suppression of Civil Liberties

Prof. Shibban Lal Saksena: Sir, I have a cut motion which I wish to move.

Mr. Speaker: Yes, he may move that.

Prof. Shibban Lal Saksena: Sir, I beg to move:

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

Mr. Speaker: Cut motion moved:

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

شری دیپس بلدھو کہتا : جناب صدر ! مجھے افسوس ہے کہ اس موقع پر ہماری
 کی وجہ سے آنریبل ہوم منسٹر یہاں تشریف نہیں رکھتے اور نہ ہی آنریبل مسٹر
 کوڈگل جلیہیں آج گورنمنٹ کی طرف سے جواب دینا تھا یہاں موجود ہیں ایسی
 صورت میں ہوم تھیٹریٹمنٹ پر نکتہ چینی کرنا محض ایک ضابطہ ہے جسے پورا
 کرنا ہوگا۔ اسلئے جو کٹ موشن میرے نام پر ہیں اور جیکو میں ہاؤس
 میں بیٹھ کر چکا ہوں اس پر بہت مختصر الفاظ میں چند باتیں عرض کرونگا
 پہلی چیز جسکی طرف میں ہاؤس کی توجہ کھینچنا چاہتا ہوں یہ ہے کہ جہاں
 تک چیف کمشنر کی پرفارمنس کے مستقبل کا تعلق ہے یہ امر بحث طلب نہیں
 رہ گیا ہے کہ اسکا موجودہ Administrative set up بدلے ہوئے حالات کے مطابق
 نہیں ہے۔ اسلئے میں اس پر زیادہ بحث نہیں کرنا چاہتا آپکی اور اس آنریبل

[شری دیپھ بلدھو گوٹا]

ہاؤس کی توجہ صرف اس طرف کھینچنا کافی ہرگا کہ ابھی حال ہی میں کانسی ٹیولینٹ اسمبلی نے ایک سوہیل کمیٹی اس بات پر فور کرنے کے لئے مقرر کی تھی کہ آئندہ چیف کمشنر پروونسز کے لئے جو کانسی ٹیولینٹ (Constitution) بلایا جائے وہ کن لٹلز پر ہو۔ اس کمیٹی نے جس میں مسٹر گوپال سوامی آئیننگز اور مسٹر کے سنگھ اور ڈاکٹر پتیاہی سیکرٹری جیسے قابل اصحاب شامل تھے متفقہ طور پر ایک رپورٹ پیش کی ہے جس میں سب کمیٹی نے اس امر کو تسلیم کیا کہ چیف کمشنر کے صوبہجات کو ذمہ دار حکومت نہ دینا بہت زیادتی ہے جناب صدر! اس وقت سارے ملک میں Responsible Government قائم ہو چکی ہے۔ اور وہاں کا تمام نظم و نسق وہاں کے لوگوں کے اپنے ہاتھ میں آگیا ہے۔ لیکن اس کے باوجود دہلی اجنرل مارواڑ اور کورگ ہی ایسے بدعادت علاقے ہوں جہاں کے ماحلق یہ کہنا پرتا ہے کہ وہی رفتار بے تعلقی جو پہلے تھی سو اب ہو ہی ہے۔ جو طریق حکومت یہاں پہلے تھا وہی اب بھی رائج ہے البتہ اتنا Consolation ضرور ہے کہ اب بجائے فور ملکی نوکر شاہی کے ایک Nominated Executive Committee کے انکی جگہ اپنی حکومت کا ملسٹر انچارج ہے لیکن جہاں تک ان علاقوں کے لوگوں کا تعلق ہے یہ محض ایک Consolation ہے چونکہ حقیقت میں یہاں حکومت کا کام جس طریقہ پر چل رہا تھا اس میں کوئی نمایاں فرق نہیں ہوا ہے جو حال پہلے تھا ویسا ہی اب بھی ہے۔

اس - ب کمیٹی نے جو کہ کانسی ٹیولینٹ اسمبلی کی طرف سے بلائی گئی تھی اپنی سفارشات میں یہ تین recommendations پیش کی تھیں - وہ یہ ہوں :

(1) Each of these three provinces should henceforth function under a Lieutenant Governor to be appointed by the President of the Indian Federation.

(2) Each of these Provinces should normally be administered by a Council of Ministers responsible to the Legislature as other Provinces, but any difference on an important matter arising between the Lieutenant Governor and the Ministry should be referred to the President of the Federation for final decision.

(3) Each of these Provinces should have an elected Legislature which should function like other Provincial Legislatures."

یہ تین important recommendations ہیں جو کہ اس کمیٹی نے جس میں کہ سرورہ وا ایچ دوست تھے چلکا میں نے ابھی ذکر کیا ہے متفقہ طور پر کئے ہیں سب کمیٹی نے اس اعتراض کا بھی جواب دیا ہے کہ چونکہ دہلی کو دارالانتظام ہونے کی وجہ سے جو خاص اہمیت حاصل ہے اس لئے اسے ذمہ دار حکومت میں شامل کیا جائے انہوں نے کہا ہے :

"We are fully alive to the circumstances which led to the formation of Delhi Province in 1912. We also recognize the special importance of Delhi as the Capital of the Federation. We are, however, of the opinion that the people of the Province which contains the Metro polis of India should not be deprived of the right of self-Government enjoyed by the rest of their countrymen living in the smallest of villages. We have, accordingly, placed the Delhi Province on a par with Ajmer-Merwara and Coorg and have recommended responsible Government subject to the limitations already indicated."

جناب صدر! اس لئے میں اس بارے میں اور زیادہ بحث نہ کرتا ہوا یہ کہونگا کہ دہلی اجمیر مارواڑ اور کورگ کا موجودہ Administrative set up اچھا نہیں ہے - اور وہاں کے لوگوں کی رائے کے خلاف ہے - اور بہت ہی undemocratic ہے - اسلئے میری گزارش یہ ہے کہ کانسٹیٹیوٹنٹ اسمبلی کی سپیشل کمیٹی نے جو سفارشات کیں ہیں انکا لحاظ رکھتے ہوئے دو مہانی عرصہ میں بھی ایڈمنسٹریشن میں مناسب تبدیلیاں کر دی جائیں - دہلی اور چیف کمشنر کے دوسرے صوبوں میں جن مسائل سے آج دوچار ہونا پڑتا ہے اسکے لئے ضروری ہے کہ موجودہ طریق حکومت کو بدلا جائے - اسکے لئے ہمیں فوری کارروائی کرنیکی ضرورت ہے - ہمارا یہ کوئی نیا مطالبہ نہیں ہے - ہم اس بات کے لئے نئے کانسٹیٹیوٹنٹ اسمبلی کا انتظار نہیں کرنا چاہتے ہیں ہم ان حالات کو بدلنا چاہتے ہیں - دہلی ایک بہت Important جگہ ہے - یہاں کا اثر دوسرے مقامات پر بھی پڑتا ہے - پچھلے دنوں جو واقعات یہاں رونما ہوئے انکی وجہ سے یہاں کی رائے عامہ کا زبردست مطالبہ ہے - کہ یہاں کے روزمرہ کے ایڈمنسٹریشن میں یہاں کے لوگوں کا ہاتھ ضرور ہونا چاہئے - اس سلسلہ میں پچھلے سال یکم اپریل کو آنریبل ہوم منسٹر نے ایک ایڈوائزری کونسل قائم کرنیکا اعلان کیا تھا جس سے یہ سمجھا جاتا تھا کہ وہ ترقی کی طرف ایک قدم ہے یہ ایڈوائزری کونسلوں دہلی اور اجمیر دونوں صوبجات کے لئے مقرر کی گئیں - امید تو یہ تھی کہ یہ کونسلوں یہاں کی ضروریات کو پورا کرنے میں مفید ثابت ہونگی - لیکن مجھے ایک سال کے تجربے کے بعد یہ افسوس سے کہنا پڑتا ہے کہ یہ محض گھنٹی بھول تھے - عملی طور پر چیف کمشنر کے ایڈوائزری کونسلوں یہاں ضروریات کو رفع نہیں کر سکیں اور جو توقعات ان سے وابستہ کی گئیں تھیں وہ بھی پوری نہیں ہوئی - ایک سال کے عرصہ میں اس ایڈوائزری کونسل کی دہلی میں صرف چھ Meetings ہوئیں - ان چھ میں سے بھی صرف دو تھیں Meetings ایسی تھیں جن میں عوام سے تعلق رکھنے والی باتوں پر غور کیا گیا باقی Meetings میں صرف ضابطہ کی کارروائی کی گئی اور رولز وغیرہ پاس کئے گئے - مئی کے مہینے میں دہلی کی ایڈوائزری کونسل نے رولز پاس کرکے ہوم ڈیپارٹمنٹ کو بھیج دئے تھے مگر اگست تک وہاں سے مڈطور ہو کر واپس نہیں آئے - اسکے علاوہ جو ریویویشن اس نے پاس کئے ان پر بھی کوئی عملی کارروائی اب تک نہیں ہوئی - چنانچہ چیف کمشنر کی ایڈوائزری کونسل نے ماہ دسمبر میں جو meeting کی آسمیں یہ مطالبہ کیا تھا کہ چونکہ موجودہ کانسٹیٹیوٹنٹ اسمبلی یہاں کی ضروریات کے لئے کافی نہیں ہے - اس لئے ضرورت اس بات کی ہے کہ ہوم ڈیپارٹمنٹ اسبات پر فوری توجہ دے اور ایسا طریقہ اختیار کرے جس سے کونسل کے ممبروں کو روزمرہ کے ایڈمنسٹریشن کے ساتھ Associate کیا جا سکے اس بارے میں مشکل یہ ہے کہ جس نوٹیفیکیشن کے ذریعے یہ کونسلوں قائم ہوئیں تھیں - آسمیں صاف طور پر کہا گیا

[شری دیھن بندھو گھتا]

تھا کہ مسمران Day to day administration میں کوئی حصہ نہیں لے سکیں گے اسکا نتیجہ یہ ہے کہ سال بھر کے عرصہ میں دہلی اور اجمہر مارواڑ میں اس دوران میں کئی اہم تبدیلیاں ہونیں اور فہر معمولی حالات پیدا ہوئے - لیکن اس ایڈوائزری کونسل کو کوئی ایسا موقع نہیں دیا گیا تاکہ وہ اپنی انکے بارے میں رائے ظاہر کر سکے - ایڈمنسٹریشن میں تبدیلی کے بارے میں بھی تین ماہ ہوئے ریپوزیشن پلس کر کے ہوم گورنمنٹ کے پلس بوجھ دیا گیا تھا لیکن اسوقت تک اس پر بھی کوئی عمل درآمد نہیں ہوا میرا تجربہ یہ ہے کہ ایڈوائزری کونسل اگر کوئی ریپوزیشن پلس کرتی ہے تو اس پر کوئی صاحب توجہ نہیں دیتے - اس کا نتیجہ صرف یہ ہے کہ یہ ایڈوائزری کونسلوں میں صرف دل بہلانے کی چیزیں بن کر رہ گئیں ہیں - عام لوگوں کو تو یہ بتایا جاتا ہے کہ صوبہ کی گورنمنٹ ایڈوائزری کونسل کے مشورے سے چلتی ہے جب کہ حقیقت یہ ہے کہ اس کونسل کے مسمران کو بھی پتہ نہیں ہوتا کہ بڑے بڑے فیصلے کب اور کھونکر کئے جاتے ہیں کئی بڑی بڑی تبدیلیاں ہو جاتی ہیں لیکن ان کو اس کا کوئی علم تک نہیں ہوتا - مثلاً ایک نیا انسپیکٹر جنرل پولیس صوبہ میں لگا دیا جاتا - لیکن ان مسمران کو اس بارے میں پتہ نہ کہہ معلوم نہیں ہوتا - کئی نئی پوسٹ create کر دی جاتی ہیں - اور ان کو کوئی علم نہیں ہوتا - خرچہ میں لاکھوں روپیہ کا اضافہ ہو جاتا ہے - لیکن ایڈوائزری کونسل کے سامنے بھجوت بھی ہر وقت نہیں آتا - اور نہ ہی اس کے مسمران کو اس بارے میں کوئی پتہ ہوتا - ان کی حالت عجیب ہے جیسی کی حالت ہے -

دہلی میں اتنے بڑے قصے ہوئے ہیں - مہتاجی کا بلہدان تک ہو گیا - اور اس اسمبلی میں بھی اس بارے میں سوال آتا کہ کس طرح سے ہمارا ایڈمنسٹریشن اس بارے میں Precautionary measures لہنے میں لہل ہوا ہے - لیکن اگر حقیقت میں دیکھا جائے تو ایڈوائزری کونسل کو اس بارے میں بھی کبھی یہ سوچنے کا موقعہ نہیں دیا گیا کہ حالت پر قابو پانے کے لئے کیا نواتع اختیار کرے چاہئیں دہلی میں ماہ ستمبر میں چمکڑے شروع ہوئے تھے ان سے جو صورت حالت پیدا ہوئی اس پر غور کرنے کے لئے ہم نے مہٹلک بلانے کے لئے کہا لیکن کبھی مہٹلک نہیں بلانی گئی - تین ماہ کے بعد جب ایک مہٹلک بلانی گئی تو وہاں پر چیف کمشنر صاحب نے کہا کہ چونکہ لوکل گورنمنٹ سے اختیارات ملتا چھین لئے گئے تھے - اس لئے ایڈوائزری کونسل کا اجلاس نہیں بلایا گیا -

جناب صدر! میں یہ عرض کرنا چاہتا ہوں کہ آج دہلی ، اجمہر مارواڑ اور دوسری جگہوں سے جو مطالبہ کیا گیا ہے وہ سراسر جائز ہے اگر ہم ساری ساری مانگ پوری نہیں کر سکتے تو نہ سہی لیکن جو کچھ دفعہ 93 کے دور میں ان صوبوں میں ہونا تھا

جہاں کہ وزارتیں ختم ہو گئیں تھیں اور ایڈوائزر مقرر کر دیئے گئے کم سے کم اتنا تو ہم کر سکتے ہیں۔ اس وقت ایڈوائزر کو اختیار تھا کہ وہ day to day administration میں گورنروں کو ایڈوائز کریں اور ان کی ایڈوائز پر عائد آمد ہوتا تھا۔ آج اگو ایسا ہی یہاں بھی کر دیا جائے تب بھی کچھ بہتری کی صورت ہو سکتی ہے۔ چیف کمشنر صاحب ایڈوائزر سے روز مرہ کے کاموں میں مشورہ لے سکتے ہیں اور ان کی مرضی کے مطابق ایڈمنسٹریشن کو چلا سکتے ہیں اگر چیف کمشنر صاحب سے ایڈوائزر کے کچھ رائے میں اختلاف ہو تو یہ ہر وقت ہو سکتا ہے کہ اوپر ہوم منسٹر صاحب تشریف فرماں ہیں وہ دخل دے سکتے ہیں لیکن آج یہ حالت ہے کہ چیف کمشنر صاحب مطلق العنان ہیں ان پر ایڈوائزر کی کونسل کا کوئی اثر نہیں ہے اس کے ممبران کوئی دخل حکومت کے کام میں نہیں دے سکتے ہیں۔ جناب صدر! ایک اور تکلیف کی طرف ہاؤس کی توجہ کھینچنا چاہتا ہوں ہاؤس میں اس سے پیشتر میں نے سوال اٹھایا تھا کہ دہلی میں اگر علیحدہ ہائی کورٹ نہیں ہو سکتا تو کم سے کم سرکٹ کورٹ یہاں ہیٹھا کرے آج کل پنجاب کا ہائی کورٹ شملہ میں ہے سردی کے زمانے میں دہلی کے لوگوں کو مقدمات کی پھروں کے لئے شملہ جانا پڑتا ہے اور اس طریق سخت مشکل کا سامنا کرنا پڑتا ہے۔ ضرورت ہے کہ ہائی کورٹ کی جگہ وہاں سے تبدیل کر دی جائے اور وہ بجائے شملہ کے دہلی میں ہیٹھا کرے۔ ایڈوائزر کی کونسل کے ذریعہ بھی مطالبہ کیا جا چکا ہے لیکن آج تک اسپر دھیان نہیں دیا گیا۔ اب اجیبر مارولز کا حال سلٹے۔ وہاں کھلئے ٹینڈنسی ایکٹ بنانے کی ضرورت ہے وہاں فیوٹل لارڈز کھٹوچ جاگھردار چلے آ رہے ہیں مزارعوں کو سخت پریشانی کا سامنا کرنا پڑتا ہے لیکن اس کی نوبت نہیں آتی کہ ہاؤس میں اسپرے میں کوئی بل آسکے آپ حیران ہونگے جناب صدر! کہ یہاں پر جتنے منسٹرس ہیں ان سے براہ راست تعلق چیف کمشنر کا ہے کوئی ایک منسٹر مرکزی صوبجات کھلئے ذمہوار نہیں اور مختلف وزیروں کے کاموں میں کوئی کوارڈینیشن نہیں ہے ایک ڈیپارٹمنٹ سے دوسرے ڈیپارٹمنٹ تک خطا جاتے ہیں مہیوں مہیوں بلکہ بعض اوقات برسوں کا عرصہ گزر جاتا ہے۔ چنانچہ میرے ہاتھ میں ایک خط ایگریکلچر ڈیپارٹمنٹ کا ہے۔ میرے لائق درست پلڈت تھا کہ اس بھارگو کی تحریک پر ایگریکلچر ڈیپارٹمنٹ نے ۱۰ اپریل ۴۷ع کو ایک خط چیف کمشنر دہلی کو لکھا جسکا جواب ۲۵ فروری ۴۸ع کو آیا ہے پلڈت جی نے یہ تحریک کی تھی کہ ڈیپریسڈ کلاسز کو صوبہ دہلی میں لیڈ ایلیمنٹیشن ایکٹ پنجاب سے مستثنیٰ کر دیا جائے یہ پوچھنے پر کہ چیف کمشنر کو اتنا لمبا عرصہ جواب دینے میں کیوں لگا انہیں حکومت کی جانب سے یہ خط موصول ہوا:—

"I admit there was delay in dealing with this matter but you will no doubt, realize that the Chief Commissioner must have been too pre-occupied with other urgent matters during these critical months to be able to devote too much time to legislative changes."

[شری دیھی بلدھو گوپتا]

یہی مثال نہیں بلکہ پچاسوں مثالوں میں قسم کی موجود ہیں کہ ایک محکمہ سے دوسرے محکمہ تک خط و کتابت کرنے میں کئی دیر لگتی ہے اسلئے میں نہایت ادب سے ہاؤس کے سپیکر سے جو دہلی میں مہمان ہیں عرض کروں گا کہ انہیں یہ سمجھنا چاہئے کہ دہلی اتنا گہر ہے اور دہلی اور دوسرے چیف کمشنر کے صوبوں کے ساتھ اتنی پیمائشی کا سلوک نہیں کرنا چاہئے میں سمجھتا ہوں کہ دہلی والوں کا یہ مطالبہ سراسر جائز ہے کہ دہلی ایڈمنسٹریشن میں دہلی والوں کی اولیٰ ہونا چاہئے۔ جسوقت تک اسطرح توجہ نہیں دی جائیگی دہلی کی رائے عامہ مطمئن نہیں ہو سکتی۔ جلال صدر! میں ایک مدت دوسری کٹ موشن کے بارے میں اور لوں گا اس سلسلہ میں میں صرف یہ کہنا چاہتا ہوں کہ آج دہلی میں دن دھارے لگے پڑ رہے ہیں موٹر میں روک لی جاتی ہیں۔ گورنمنٹ کو چاہئے کہ اسپیشل C. I. D. کا انتظام کرے جسکا یہ کام ہو کہ ۵ لاکھ کے قریب جو آدمی باہر سے آئے ہوئے ہیں ان میں جو Bad characters ہوں انکی List تیار کرے تا کہ ان پر نگرانی رکھی جاسکے اس کے بغیر دہلی کا امن خطرہ میں رہے گا آخر میں میں پھر اپیل کروں گا کہ دہلی والوں کے مطالبات پر ہمدردانہ فور کیا جائے اور انہیں یہی محسوس کرنے کا موقعہ دیا جائے دہلی کہلئے یہی سولج پراپت ہو چکا ہے

(English Translation of the above speech)

Shri Dombandhu Gupta: Mr. Speaker, I am sorry that due to illness the Honourable the Home Minister is not present in the House. Honourable Mr. Gadgil who was to reply on behalf of the Government is also not present. Under these circumstances it will merely be a formality to criticise the Home Department. I shall therefore speak a few words on the cut motions which I have moved.

The first point to which I want to draw the attention of the House is to the future of Chief Commissioners' provinces. No arguments are necessary to say that the present administrative set up of the provinces is not compatible with the changed circumstances. Therefore I do not want to argue it at length. It will suffice to draw your attention and that of the House to a special committee appointed recently by the Constituent Assembly to consider the lines on which the future constitution of the Chief Commissioners' provinces should be drawn up. This committee which consisted of learned men like Mr. Gopalaswami Ayyangar, Mr. K. Santhanam and Dr. Pattabhi Sitaramayya presented a unanimous report in which it has been admitted that it would be too much to deny responsible Government to the Chief Commissioners' provinces. Sir, responsible Government has been established throughout the country and the administration is being run by the people. In spite of this it can be said about Delhi, Ajmer-Merwara and Coorg that they are still the unfortunate areas where the old system prevails. The old system of administration still exists but with this consolation that instead of an Executive Council nominated by foreign bureaucrats, it is under the charge of a Minister of our own Government. This is a mere consolation and in reality no change has occurred in the previous form of Government so far as the people living in these areas are concerned and the former conditions still prevail.

The Sub-committee appointed by the Constituent Assembly has *inter alia* made these three recommendations:

"(1) Each of these three provinces should hereafter function under a Lieutenant Governor to be appointed by the President of the Indian Federation.

(2) Each of these Provinces should normally be administered by a Council of Ministers responsible to the Legislature as in other Provinces, but any difference on an important matter arising between the Lieutenant Governor and the Ministry should be referred to the President of the Federation for final decision.

(3) Each of these Provinces should have an elected Legislature which should function like other Provincial Legislatures."

These three important recommendations were unanimously made by the sub-committee consisting of the above mentioned learned friends. The objection that Delhi should not be granted responsible Government because of her special importance as the capital has also been answered by the sub-committee. The Committee States:

"We are fully alive to the circumstances which led to the formation of Delhi Province in 1912. We also recognise the special importance of Delhi as the Capital of the Federation. We are, however, of the opinion that the people of the Province which contains the Metropolis of India should not be deprived of the right of self Government enjoyed by the rest of their countrymen living in the smallest of villages. We have, accordingly, placed the Delhi Province on a par with Ajmer-Merwara and Coorg and have recommended responsible Government subject to the limitations already indicated."

Sir, without arguing further I would say that the present administrative set up of Delhi, Ajmer-Merwara and Coorg is not good. It is very undemocratic and against the wishes of the people. I submit therefore that keeping in view the recommendations of the Constituent Assembly's special committee suitable changes should be made in the administration during the interim period. The problems that are to be faced these days in other provinces necessitate that the present form of administration should be changed and we must take prompt action. This is not at all a new demand on our part and we do not want to wait for the new constitution. We want to change these conditions. Delhi is an important place and has reactions on other places as well. Due to recent happenings there is an emphatic public demand that the people of this place should have a hand in the day to day administration. Last year on the 1st April the Honourable the Home Minister announced the establishment of an Advisory Council and it was considered a forward step. These Advisory Councils were established for both the Provinces of Delhi and Ajmer-Merwara. It was hoped that these councils would prove beneficial in fulfilling the requirements of these provinces, but after a year's experience I am sorry to say that it has proved to be of no real benefit. In practice Chief Commissioners' Advisory Councils could not cater to the needs and did not come up to the expectations. Within the period of one year only six meetings of this Advisory Council were held in Delhi and only in two or three meetings public matters were considered. In other meetings only formal matters were discussed and rules etc. were adopted. The Delhi Advisory Council framed their rules in the month of May and forwarded them to the Home Department which did not approve them till August. Even on resolutions passed by this body no action has so far been taken. The meeting of the Chief Commissioners' Advisory Council held in December demanded that as the present constitution does not sufficiently meet the needs, the Home Department should pay their immediate attention to it and devise means so as to make it possible to associate the members of the Council in the day to day administration. The difficulty arises due to the fact that the notification under which these councils were set up expressly laid down that the members could not participate in the day to day administration. The result was that the Advisory Council had no opportunity to consider and express any opinion on the important changes and unusual events which occurred in Delhi and Ajmer-Merwara during the year. The Resolution suggesting change in administration was passed and forwarded to the Home Department three months back but it has not been enforced up to this time. It is my experience that no heed is paid by any one to any resolution passed by the Advisory Council. The only conclusion is that these

[Shri Deshbandhu Gupta]

Advisory Councils are merely for purposes of show. The public is told that the Provincial Government is carried on in consultation with the Advisory Council but the truth is that the members of this Council do not even know how and when important decisions are taken. Many important changes take place without their knowledge. For example these members know nothing till a new Inspector General of Police is appointed in the Province or any new posts are created. Usually no budget is presented to the Advisory Council in time even though there is an increase of expenditure by lakhs of rupees nor are its members informed about it. They are in a strange state of helplessness. Many things have happened in Delhi even Mahatma Ji's life was lost. The question regarding the failure of our administration in adopting precautionary measures was put in this behalf in this Assembly but in fact the Advisory Council had no occasion to consider the measures to be adopted in controlling the situation. We asked for convening a meeting to consider the situation which arose out of September riots in Delhi, but no meeting was convened. When a meeting was convened after three months, the Chief Commissioner stated therein that no meeting of the Advisory Council could be called because the local Government had been divested of all their powers.

Sir, I would submit that the present demands of the people of Delhi and Ajmer-Merwara and other places are perfectly justified. If we are unable to meet all their demands, we can at least do as much as was done during the section 93 rule in those provinces where the ministries were dissolved and Advisers appointed. Advisers could advise the Governors in matters of day to day administration and their advice was acted upon. If this is adopted here also it would mean a step forward. The Chief Commissioner can take the advice from the advisers and run the administration accordingly. Honourable the Home Minister can interfere if there is a difference of opinion between the Chief Commissioner and his advisers. At present the Chief Commissioner is an autocrat. He can neither be influenced by the Advisory Council, nor can its members interfere in matters of administration.

Sir, I want to draw the attention of the House to one more hardship. Earlier I raised the question that if there can be no separate High Court for Delhi, at least a Circuit Court should sit here. At present the East Punjab High Court is at Simla and in winter the people of Delhi have to go to Simla and have to encounter great hardships in conducting their cases. It is necessary that the seat of High Court should be shifted from Simla to Delhi. This demand has been put forward through the Advisory Council, but no heed has been paid to it so far.

Now about Ajmer-Merwara. A Tenancy Act is required there. Like the old feudal lords they have the Jagirdars and the tenants have to face great hardships. So far it has not been possible to introduce a Bill to this respect in the House. Sir, you will be surprised to know that the Chief Commissioner has direct contact with all the Ministers of our Government and no one of them is solely responsible for the centrally administered areas. There is no co-ordination in the working of various departments and it takes weeks, months and sometimes even years for a letter to reach from one department to another. I have a letter of the Agricultural Department in my hand. It was at the initiative of my learned friend Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava that a letter was addressed by the Agricultural Department to the Chief Commissioner, Delhi, on the 10th April, 1947. A reply to this was received on the 25th February, 1948. Pandit Ji desired that the depressed classes of Delhi should be exempted from the operation of the Punjab Land Alienation Act. On enquiring why it took so much time for the Chief Commissioner to reply, the Government wrote as follows:

"I admit there was delay in dealing with this matter but you will no doubt, realise that the Chief Commissioner must have been too pre-occupied with other urgent matters, during these critical months to be able to devote too much time to legislative changes."

There are many instances which give an idea about the time spent in Departmental correspondence. Most respectfully, therefore, I request those Honourable Members of the House who are at present in Delhi as visitors to consider Delhi as their home and not to make differential treatment between Delhi and other Chief Commissioners' provinces. I am of the opinion that the demand of the people of Delhi to have a say in Delhi's administration is reasonable. Unless attention is paid to this the public opinion in Delhi can not be satisfied. Sir, I shall take a minute more to discuss another cut motion and will say that in Delhi day-time dacoities and motor-car hold-ups take place frequently. Government should depute a special staff of C.I.D. to prepare a list of bad characters from the five lakh immigrants and to keep a watch on them. Otherwise peace in Delhi is likely to be endangered. In conclusion I shall again submit that the demands of the people of Delhi should be considered sympathetically so that they may have an occasion to realise that Delhi too has achieved freedom.

Pandit Mukut Bihari Lal Bhargava (Ajmer-Merwara): Sir, I rise to support this motion. So far as Delhi is concerned, notwithstanding the examples given by my Honourable friend, it has always been receiving special treatment at the hands of the Government of India. Even in the present budget not less than 62 lakhs has been allotted for new development schemes while poor Ajmer is the recipient of only about 10 lakhs. But apart from this differential treatment—which is only natural as Delhi happens to be the capital of India—there is absolutely no reason why the administrative set-up in these two provinces and also in the province of Coorg should be so out of date and antediluvian. All measures of reform since 1909,—the Morley-Minto Reforms, the Montagu-Chelmsford Reforms and the Government of India Act, 1935,—have left untouched these conclaves of undiluted bureaucratic administration; and it is high time that some suitable changes on a popular basis are introduced as early as possible. The Constituent Assembly sub-committee, whose recommendations in brief have been read out just now do contemplate that there must be in the future set-up of the country a democratic constitution for these provinces. On the lines suggested by that special sub-committee it is possible to bring in something immediately. Section 94(3) of the Government of India Act clearly lays down that a Chief Commissioner's province shall be administered by the Governor-General acting, to such extent as he thinks fit, through a Chief Commissioner to be appointed by him. The statute does not specify the powers and rights of the Chief Commissioner; they are to be determined from time to time by the Governor-General; and the recent notification issued in the Extraordinary Gazette dated 8th February 1947 which brought into existence the present Advisory Council clearly shows that Government have power to make any necessary changes in the administrative set-up of these areas. No Act or enactment is necessary for improving the tone of administration in these areas; only a suitable modification in the terms of that notification will be enough. I suggest that the Chief Commissioners of these provinces need no longer be I.C.S. men. If leading public men and patriots can be entrusted with the administration of big provinces like the U.P. and Bombay, etc., there is absolutely no reason why the head of the administration in these provinces should not be a public man with a record of good service. Similarly during the interim period Executive Councillors or Advisers of the Chief Commissioner can be selected from the Advisory Council or from any other public body representative of public opinion in the province; and these Advisers or Ministers or Executive Councillors by whatever name you may call them—should be in charge of the day to day administration in the province. They should normally be in charge of the administrative machinery and the Chief Commissioner should be the constitutional head. In case of any difference of opinion on an important issue, the matter may be referred to the Minister in Charge and his opinion should prevail. There should be no difficulty whatsoever in bringing about this moderate change in the tone of the administration.

[Pandit Mukut Bihari Lal Bhargava]

My friend has drawn your attention in what manner these areas are being affected for want of proper attention and reformatory measures of very great urgency. The Ajmer-Merwara Tenancy Legislation is a case in point. It has been for years hanging fire and the relations between the tenants and the feudal lords is very acute. During the last session of the Legislature, this matter was brought to the attention of Dr. Rajendra Prasad who was then in charge of the Department of Agriculture and he had promised to give it the highest priority. The draft of the Bill has been before the Government of India for over a year and still it has not been possible in spite of the Minister in charge giving highest priority to pilot it in the House. The result is that the agrarian trouble is again brewing and it is bound to come to a head in the coming rabi crop.

There is another fact in respect of Ajmer to which I would like to draw the attention of the Honourable House. Geographically, Ajmer is surrounded on all sides by the Rajputana States. We have seen the process of territorial and administrative integration that is taking place, by which the States are setting up popular ministries. Round Ajmer-Merwara there are the small states of Shahpura and Kishengarh which have already conceded responsible Government and popular Ministries are in charge of the administration there. It appears illogical that Ajmer, which is directly under the Central Government, should not have any responsible Government when it is insisted that even in small States there should be a responsible Ministry. Therefore, it is an additional argument why responsible Government should be introduced as early as possible.

There is one other matter to which I would like to draw the attention of the House. Ajmer is situated in the midst of the Rajputana States and we are seeing how the dissipated tendencies left behind by the British are being counteracted by our astute diplomat and veteran leader. The result is that there is a strong process of territorial and administrative integration taking place amongst different groups of States. The Orissa States have already merged in Orissa; the Deccan States in Bombay and the Chhatisgarh States in C.P. and there have already come into existence the new provinces of Saurashtra on the one hand and Bundelkhand on the other. This process of cohesion has also influenced the Rajputana States. In these days of transition, Ajmer being in the heart of the Rajputana States, it is essential that for the interim period responsible Government should at once be established and the administration of the Province should be in the hands of the accredited representatives of public opinion there. Without such a change it will not be possible for Ajmer to play its historic role today, when the new Rajasthan is in the making and is bound to come into existence sooner or later. The cohesion of over 500 small States into sizable units has been the result of the astute statesmanship on the part of our veteran Sardar Patel and I take this opportunity of offering him my humble tribute. This for all ages to come will go down as the greatest achievement of constructive statesmanship and of straight forward Indian diplomacy.

With these remarks I again support the cut motion and press upon the Government of India the urgency of bringing about immediate responsible Government for the interim period in the province of Ajmer-Merwara.

In respect of Coorg, I also want to submit one thing. Recently a retired I.C.S. man, a Madras man, aged about 60, has been appointed as Chief Commissioner. This is another latest example of what consideration is given to Chief Commissioner's provinces. Probably the Government of India is so occupied with problems of countrywide importance that it does not find time to devote sufficient attention to matters concerning these small areas. So far as these areas are concerned and their people, it is of immense importance and I submit that it is essential in the interests of the people and also in keeping

with the spirit of free India, that some democratization of administration in these areas should take place immediately.

Prof. Shibban Lal Saksena: I have moved a cut motion to discuss a very important subject. I think since the news of Mahatma Gandhi's death the whole country has been benumbed. It was just like a shock and we never thought that civil liberties which we had allowed so liberally could ever be marred like this. And for at least two weeks after his death we were simply stupefied. We ourselves never cared what people said and we thought we were right in seeing that we found out how this thing had happened. But now over a month has passed and I feel that we must think coolly as to whether we are not giving the go-bye to all the ideals for which we had lived and for which we had fought.

Today in several parts of the country we hear general complaints that civil liberties have been suppressed altogether. I know our leaders have been the greatest exponents of civil liberties not only in this country but before the whole world. They have fought for them and they are renowned for them. But today, on account of a mad act of a mad man we do not know what to do. Yet I think the time has come when we should review the whole situation. Today the accusers tell us that we cannot do any work either in labour or kisans: that we cannot do anything we like. There are instances where people have been taken in falsely by policemen and been told that they are R.S.S. men. There are instances where people have been frightened in to paying subscriptions because they were afraid they would be challaned as R.S.S. men. I know there are policemen who have made a good lot of money by releasing those who were actually in the R.S.S. but keeping under arrest those who were not and who were innocent people. I do not want that the Government should be accused in this manner. The prestige of the Government is the concern of all of us. In this country we should be able to stand up and say that we stand for civil liberties. We want every body to be a citizen of this country whether he is a Hindu, Muslim, Christian or Sikh. In our constitution there should be nothing like the religious denomination of anybody. We want no reservation, no separate electorates. We want a complete secular state and that is our ideal. What are we doing about it?

I have been watching the course of events in the country. About 30,000 people have been arrested, of which 25,000 are R.S.S. men and the rest are labour workers. Sometimes I feel that if we had diverted somehow the energies of these R.S.S. men in different channels, the Mahatma's life would not have been lost. If was a great misfortune that we did not do it or probably God ordained it so. Now are we doing something which we ought to have done in the beginning? I was present at Lucknow when Sardar Patel delivered his speech, in which he said to the R.S.S. men that they were young men, who despite their ideals were going in the wrong way. He asked them to mend themselves and join the Congress. He made a speech which would go down in history. But what is it that we are doing? We are putting those people in jail and when they come out they will come out more hardened R.S.S. men. We were put in jail by the British Government and when we came out we were more hardened Congressmen than what we were. It is the same mistake which we are committing. I am afraid when these men come out they will not be chastened but will become worse R.S.S. men than what they were before. I therefore think that the time has come to reclaim them, which Sardar Patel at Lucknow talked about. I wish all of them were released now, except those against whom there is a charge of complicity in the assassination of Mahatmaji. Those people who had any hand in the murder of Gandhiji will go down in history as the blackest of men in the world. But let it not be said that we have used this occasion to suppress our political opponents through political motives. When they talk to me in this way, I argue with them. I appeal to them that it is wrong. The country is bewildered:

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we have lost the father of the nation. We want to root out communalism. We want to build up a great state in our country. But with all our arguments we are unable to convince them. We must think coolly and try to reclaim these misguided youths and make them to become the builders of the nation. There may be 50 lakhs people in the R.S.S. You may not be able to convert them all but you can make most of them staunch pillars of the nation by approaching them in a different manner. On the other hand, I know in many places the district magistrates have used their offices to curb down all opposition. In Dehra Dun one of the members of the Assembly was present at a meeting when a friend protested against certain remarks in his speech. That man complained to the Provincial Government against the magistrate there. The magistrate asked of the man "Why have you complained against me?" and immediately he called the policemen, had the man handcuffed and put him in the jail. These things are not put in papers. Before a man is put in jail we must frame a charge-sheet. We must have a psychological method of converting and bringing back those men who are in the R.S.S. and not by putting them in jail. We must have a democratic state in which everybody must be a citizen, except those who are traitors and disloyal to the State. All must have full and equal rights. I hope that the Government will take care to see that they are not accused of suppression of civil liberties. In Bengal Poet Tagore's nephew, a leader of one party, was arrested. In U.P. Mr. Dwiwedi has been arrested. . . .

Shri Mohan Lal Saksena (U.P.: General): On a point of order, Sir, how is it relevant?

Mr. Speaker: The Honourable Member is speaking on the cut motion relating to the suppression of civil liberties.

Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: These arrests were made in the provinces. The Centre has nothing to do with them.

Prof. Shibban Lal Saksena: When a member of the Assembly is arrested surely it is a matter of concern to the House. It is a reflection on our Government. I hope that the Government will see that it is not done in future. We are all jealous of the prestige of the Government and of the Congress. We must not resent when we point out these things. These things are a disgrace and matters of shame. The whole country is one with you in the ideals which you have got. I want that these things should be done in a manner so that nobody will point his fingers of accusation at us, that we are not putting our ideals into action in a proper manner.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: Rose—

Mr. Speaker: The Honourable Member has got only six minutes to speak, as the Honourable Minister will take 20 minutes to reply to the debate.

Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: Is it necessary that the Minister should reply? Let him reply in the afternoon.

The Honourable Shri N. V. Gadgil (Minister for Works, Mines and Power): I am agreeable to that arrangement also, if it suits Honourable Members.

Mr. Speaker: The time allotted to each of these three cut motions is one and a quarter hour and if a separate reply is expected to each of these cut motions, we might have the reply now or later on the Minister may speak for 45 minutes, which is not going to make any difference, so far as the time allotment is concerned.

Shri K. Santhanam (Madras: General): Sir, there should be no reply now. All these points may be remitted to the Minister concerned and he can take another day when he is well to reply to the debate. At present it would not be a proper reply at all.

Shri Biswanath Das (Orissa: General): In view of the fact that these subjects relate to the Deputy Prime Minister it would be better to have the replies put off.

Mr. Speaker: I may point out that it would have been, in that case, much better if these demands had not been taken for discussion today. What will happen is that all that Honourable Members are saying will get publicity in the country without the Government being given any chance to represent their case. I do not agree with the view that there should be no reply. I quite agree with the view that the reply will not be satisfactory or full as we would otherwise have expected from the Minister concerned, if he had dealt with the matter personally.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari (Madras: General): Sir, I would suggest that the Honourable Minister's reply may be made after lunch, so that we can give him sometime to apprise himself of the realities of the situation from the secretariat.

Mr. Speaker: That will mean that this particular cut will continue a longer time and we shall have to cut the time in respect of the other cuts.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: The reply can be given by the Minister for two cuts together.

An Honourable Member: For all the three cuts one reply can be made.

Mr. Speaker: The present cut motion will come to an end at 12-40.

Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: It need not come to an end, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: Honourable Members may make up their minds about it.

Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: The arrangement was that the Minister in charge would take 15 minutes on each cut motion. But unfortunately he is ill. I do not think the Honourable Minister who is going to reply will take thirty minutes. He may be given twenty minutes.

Mr. Speaker: It is on the basis of twenty minutes for him that I have set the time as 12-40 for the cut motion to end. However, we need not take more time over a discussion on this. If it is the desire of the House that we proceed till Lunch with this cut motion, I have no objection. I am merely pointing out that it will lead to the curtailment of the time for other cuts.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava (East Punjab: General): May I have fifteen minutes, Sir?

Mr. Speaker: I see that other Members are anxious to speak. So I am allotting ten minutes to each Member so that we can have three speakers.

پلڈت تھاکر داس بھارگو: جناب کی اجازت سے میں اس موشن پر جو کہ اس
 ہاؤس کے سامنے اس وقت ہے - کچھ تھوڑا عرض کرنا چاہتا ہوں - میں اس بات کو
 صاف کرنا چاہتا ہوں کہ میں اس موشن پر اگر بولتا ہوں تو وہ محض اس وجہ
 سے بولتا ہوں کہ میں محسوس کرتا ہوں کہ کانگریس اور کانگریس کونسل کا وقار اور
 عزت اس موشن کے ساتھ وابستہ ہے - میں چاہتا ہوں کہ کانگریس - کانگریس کونسل
 اور ہمارے اس نیشنل کونسل کے نام پر کسی قسم کا دھبہ یا برا نام نہ ہو - اسی وجہ
 سے میں اس موشن پر ذرا feeling کے ساتھ بولنا چاہتا ہوں - مسٹر سکسیلہ نے اس
 میں ی نوٹس میں ایسی باتیں لائی ہیں جو کہ ہر شخص کو معلوم ہیں -

جن لوگوں کو اس کا احساس ہے انہیں شرم کے مارے اپنا سر جھکا پڑتا ہے -

[یلذت تھاکر داس بہارگو]

جو یہاں پر موجودہ حکومت سے پہلے حکومت تھی وہ برٹش گورنمنٹ تھی۔ اس نے کانگریس پر بہت موقعوں پر سختیاں کیں۔ اس Organisation کو ban کر دیا۔ اس کے ورکروں پر مقدمہ چلایا اور ان کو بے وجہ قید کرتے رہے۔ میں یہ پوچھنا چاہتا ہوں کہ کیا آج کل جب ہماری اپنی گورنمنٹ یہاں ہے تو کیا ہمیں میں لوگوں کو یہ کہلے ؟ موقع دیا جائیگا کہ ہماری اپنی نیشنل گورنمنٹ بھی برٹش گورنمنٹ کے نقش قدم پر چلنا چاہتی ہے۔ اور لوگوں کو بلا مقدمہ چلائے عرصہ تک قید میں رکھنا چاہتے ہیں۔

Shri Krishna Chandra Sharma (U.P.: General): On a point of order, Sir, the Government and the Congress are two different things.

Mr. Speaker: All right. The Honourable Member may proceed with his speech.

یلذت تھاکر داس بہارگو : میں نیشنل گورنمنٹ کے نام کی اور کانگریس کے نام کی عزت کرتا ہوں۔ لیکن میں پہلے گورنمنٹ اور موجودہ گورنمنٹ میں کوئی خاص فرق نہیں دیکھتا ہوں۔ اگر پہلے کی گورنمنٹ کی طرح لوگوں کو بلا اسہر مقدمہ چلائے قید میں رکھا جائیگا۔

ہماری حکومت نے ریشترہ سوئم سہوک سنگ اور دوسرے ایسوسی ایٹوں کو ban کیا ہے۔ میں حکومت کی اس کارروائی کی مذمت نہیں کرنا چاہتا۔ میں یہ کہتا ہوں کہ گورنمنٹ کو جن organisations کے متعلق یہ شک ہو کہ وہ ملک کے امن کو خراب کرتے ہیں اور ان میں Violence پائی جاتی ہے۔ ان کو ban کرنا گورنمنٹ کا فرض ہے۔ اگر گورنمنٹ اس دیکھ میں امن و امان قائم کرنا چاہتی ہے۔

(English translation of the above speech)

Pandit Thakar Das Bhargava: Sir, with your permission I want to speak briefly on the motion before the House. I want to make it clear that my only object in speaking on the motion is that I feel that the dignity and prestige of the Congress and of the Congress Government are linked with this motion. I wish that the fair name of Congress and the National Government may not be stained and therefore, I want to speak on the motion with some feeling.

Mr. Saxena has brought to the notice of the House matters which are well-known, and those who understand these matters have to hang their heads in shame.

Before the present Government we had the British Government who treated the Congress with severity on most occasions. They banned the organisation, prosecuted its workers and put them into prison without assigning any reasons. May I ask that today under our National Government people will be afforded an opportunity to say that our National Government also wants to follow in the footsteps of the British Government by putting people in prison for long periods without trial.

Shri Krishna Chandra Sharma (U.P.: General): On a point of order, Sir, the Government and the Congress are two different things.

Mr. Speaker: All right. The Honourable Member may proceed with his speech.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: Though I respect the National Government and the Congress, yet I would find no marked difference between the previous Government and the existing Government if like the previous Government people were to be put into prison without institution of legal proceedings against them.

Our Government have banned Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh and other associations. I do not want to condemn this action of the Government but what I mean to say is, that to maintain peace and order the Government must ban only those organisations which are violent and which are suspected of disturbing the peace of the country.

Shri B. Das (Orissa: General): May I interrupt the Honourable Member? Sir, all of us are interested in the comments which the Honourable Member, Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava, is making. And he is talking in fluent Urdu! If he would kindly speak in English all of us can follow his speech.

Mr. Speaker: Let us not take time in that discussion. It is left to the Honourable Member.

Shri B. Das: It is left to him no doubt. But we would all like to respectfully listen to his speech if he changes the language.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: Sir, I am not going to disappoint Mr. Das. I was submitting for the consideration of the House that the name of the Congress and the name of our National Government are very dear to each one of us. If I say something in respect of our own Government it is with due deference, respect and love for my Government that I speak. We know that the British Government proceeded against Congressmen and other organisations in this country. It proceeded on certain defined principles and so far as the apparent tenor of those principles is concerned, it took good care to see that the courts in this country upheld the laws. We know that Section 26 of the Public Safety Act was declared illegal by the High Courts. What is the position today? The R. S. Sangh and other bodies have been banned. No case has been brought against the members of those bodies in their capacity as members of the R. S. Sangh, etc. Many persons have been arrested under the provisions of the Punjab Safety Act as applied to other territories. The position is this. Even if the Deputy Commissioners were not satisfied that certain persons were behaving in a criminal manner, or even if they thought that they were not dangerous to society, yet those persons were put in jail. Warrants were issued for those persons who had given, or who were party to give, donations to the R. S. Sangh, months before it was banned. I humbly submit that this position is not legally correct. If the Punjab Safety Act is being applied, let it be applied in the ordinary way. Persons who are really dangerous may be put in jail for such time as is necessary. I have no objection to that. But I know that many persons who are very loyal Congressmen, who would have stood between the assassin and Mahatma Gandhi and offered their lives in defence, are in jail. Persons who went to jail for the Congress cause many a time and are absolutely loyal, more loyal than many an average Congressman, are still in jail. I am ashamed of it. I cannot reply to these men. My own friends, many of them who have been working for the cause of the country, who are absolutely loyal, are still rotting in jail. I cannot show my face in the country or before them. It is not only to save my face but I cannot give them any consolation why our own Government is behaving in this manner. Since I feel this I have taken this opportunity of appealing to the Government to behave in a more legal manner and in a more considerate manner. About three hundred people of Delhi are in jail. I know many of them. Two hundred of them, I have been informed, have given assurances to the Government that they are not going to behave in any manner which is not liked by the Government. The R. S. Sangh has been

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dissolved by the founder of that Sangh and therefore continuance of association with that Sangh is no longer a crime. At the same time we know that the rot has gone much deeper than we think. If there are people who believe in violence and act in a manner prejudicial to the state I am at one with the Congress Government and our National Government that such persons should be kept in jail; I have not a word of sympathy for them; I want them to be kept in jail. But with regard to other persons my humble submission is that we should behave in a manner which is dignified. What is the use of enacting this Constitution which you are enacting if by your own acts and if by the manner in which you proceed with the administration of law you make the lives of so many people uncomfortable and you detain them in custody? It is against the grain of the Congressman, it is against the grain of the National Government that this National Government should allow itself to behave in a way which is not fair and just. If you see Section 15 of the Constitution you will come to know that the basic principle of personal liberty has been enshrined in this Section. I wish that the National Government works in the spirit of this Section and not otherwise.

This is not all. I may bring to your notice that there are many persons, hundreds of them, who are not even members of the R. S. Sangh—even they are in jail. There are a good many people who knew the R. S. Sangh only as a body which insisted on physical culture; there are many who believed that if a person belonged to that body he was doing nothing wrong except just having physical culture. Those people should not be put in jail. At the same time may I humbly suggest and complain before this House that the policy of the Government is not secular, is not I should say non-sectarian in this sense. We want to have a secular state. It is all right. I do not want that this Government should in any way favour the Hindus. But what do we see the policy elsewhere? Today in Karachi persons are attacked because they are Sikhs. A Mussalman cannot tolerate the appearance of a Sikh in Karachi. They are attacked because they are in a Gurdwara! And what is our Government doing? The Urs must be held under the auspices of the Government and with the supervision of Government officials. All mosques must be protected and repaired. I want the protection of all mosques. I want that the Muslim who lives in India must live safely and honourably. At the same time I do not want that a favourable treatment should be granted to the Muslim community or the Hindu community or the Sikh community. Two thousand houses and buildings are kept under protection here in the expectation that the Muslims will come and occupy them. Is similar treatment going to be given to any other class? I want this secular Government to act in a secular manner and for no reason should it be partial to this Community or that Community.

I therefore humbly submit for the consideration of this Government that in regard to members of the R.S.S. they should adopt a policy which is just and humane, and in our own interests it is no use when we are in office to prejudice ourselves by alienating the sympathies of these people, who have always been supporting the government, and to see that the rot enters their mind, and when they come out of jail or as long as they remain in jail to allow them to think that the government is not behaving properly. Out of crores of people who live in this country, how many are members of the Congress, but the entire country wants the Congress government to go on. We all want—not only members of the Congress, but all those whom you do not know, whom you do not count as Congressmen, do want that this national government should go on. They will shed their blood for the national government. For God's sake do not alienate them for reasons for which there is no legal or moral justification. I earnestly appeal that the cases of all those persons should be reviewed and justice done to each one and all of them.

Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: Mr. Speaker, Sir, although it is for the first time during the present Budget discussion that I am speaking, I am doing so with considerable hesitation and the reasons are two-fold: Firstly as one who has been giving lists of speakers from day to day I feel a little embarrassed when certain friends who were more anxious to speak today have not been allowed to do so: and secondly, Sir, the Honourable the Home Minister is not here and it is again a bit embarrassing to say what I have to say in his absence. Ordinarily if it were only something concerning him personally or requiring his attention, I would have had a talk with him personally or written to him, but it is not only for his information, but to remind the House and the Ministers about the importance of the task of reorganizing the secretariat, and still more to tell men and women in the secretariat as to what we in the House think of them and what this House, the country and the party which supplies the government expect of them. Sir, the secretariat is an important part of the government machinery. Indeed it is the fly wheel of the machinery and for the efficient and smooth working of the government machinery it is necessary that the free wheel of the secretariat should be moving smoothly. It should not be carried on with corruption. It should not be rusted with inefficiency and self-interest, and it is only then that this government machinery can keep moving. Sir, we all know that last year Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru admitted on the floor of the House that he had inherited an unfortunate legacy in the shape of bureaucratic machinery and he felt greatly handicapped because of it. I want to ask the Ministers as to how much this machinery has changed. We all know how it is functioning now. There has not been any change during the last year. If we go to the secretariat, we find it is as overcrowded as before. I will just give you a list of the Secretaries, Deputy Secretaries and Under Secretaries, and from that you will see that I am justified in making my statement. As regards Secretaries, in 1924/25, we had only 9 Secretaries to Departments; in 1938/39 we had 10 Secretaries; and in 1948/49 we have 22 Secretaries—so that there has been a rise from about 10 to 22 Secretaries.

Then as regards Additional Secretaries, in 1924/25 we had none, in 1938/39 we had 3 Additional Secretaries; and in 1948/49 we have 5 Additional Secretaries; so that we have in all 27 Secretaries or Additional Secretaries working in the departments.

As for Joint Secretaries, there were 7 in 1924/25, 10 in 1938/39; and 37 in 1948/49.

Then as regards Deputy Secretaries, in 1924/25 we had 15, in 1938/39 we had 19, and now we have 88.

Again in regard to Under Secretaries, in 1924/25 there were 4, in 1938/39 there were 17, and now in 1948/49 we have 78.

Again as regards Assistant Secretaries, we find in 1924/25 there were 21, in 1938/39 there were 21, and now we have 127. There are Assistant Secretaries with only three Assistants and Superintendents with even two assistants.

So this is the position in regard to these officers in the secretariat. I know that a Retrenchment Committee has been appointed. As a matter of fact this committee has not been able to function. I was told it would be functioning and would be submitting interim reports, but from what I have heard it is not going to begin its work in right earnest till April. Anyway I am not concerned with the economy or the retrenchment part of it. It was said on behalf of the Production Department and industrialists that Transport was the biggest bottle-neck. The Transport Minister on the other hand said that the biggest bottle-neck was production. Personally I feel that the biggest bottle-neck is the secretariat where all schemes are throttled, delayed

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and do not get as prompt attention as they should. We have heard appeals from the Prime Minister, the Deputy Prime Minister and the Minister for Production for more and more production—Produce or Perish is their Slogan. But what are these gentlemen producing? They are not producing anything but files and red tape. The Railway budget papers were supplied this year tied in blue tape and the General budget papers tied in white tape, and I thought the red tape had gone. The red tape is still there and we find that even now letters to the secretariat are not acknowledged for months together. Sir, what is our expectation? We want that the secretariat should be efficient. The Staff in the secretariat should be patriotic and public-spirited. I do not want them to indulge in politics, but I do want that they should be public-spirited and patriotic, but what do we find in the secretariat? We want them to be governed by the Gandhian principle, and the Gandhian principle means simplicity, service and sacrifice. These gentlemen who adorn the high posts of Secretaries are those persons who in 1920/21, when the appeal came from Mahatma Gandhi to give up their studies, stuck on, went to foreign countries and qualified themselves and now they are in the I.C.S., while their compatriots, those persons who were competing with them, went to jails, and some of them are also members here, and they complain that while those persons who were their colleagues and co-students are Secretaries representing the India Government at different international conferences, they are not even consulted about these important questions.

Now, Sir, talking about their patriotism again—I know these gentlemen, know that according to the constitution all the titles will be abolished in this country, but then these gentlemen have not even thought it necessary to give up their O. B. E. and M. B. E., and Rai Sahib and Rai Bahadur titles. You will see British Imperialism may have gone but these Officers and Members of the British Empire continue. Again, what is the change in their dress? They continue in their old uniform. Not only that. What is their attitude towards inferiors? They themselves may come and dance attendance on Ministers. They may just try to prove their efficiency to them, but you go and see their attitude towards inferiors. The subordinates are kept at a distance. They are not accessible to them.

Then again they want to draw their maximum salaries of Rs. 4,000, although according to the recommendations of the Pay Commission none of them should draw more than Rs. 3,000. We know in Burma the Secretaries were drawing high salaries, but they have given them up simply as a patriotic duty. Even in Pakistan their Secretaries have, in response to the appeal by the Prime Minister, accepted a reduction in salaries. But our patriots will have none of this; they must have their full pound of flesh no matter whether the country bleeds or whether the tax-payer suffers.

One thing more about these I.C.S. officers. I had a talk with the Honourable the Deputy Prime Minister and he said he was working with one-third the number of the I.C.S. I told him, "Why then, if you have got only one-third, should you have these persons going to foreign countries, and working as Private Secretaries and working everywhere"? He said, what could he do? Everybody was demanding for I.C.S. officers with ten years' experience and all that. Why this new love for the I.C.S.? Why this change and diffidence on the part of our leaders? Who are these persons? After all, if we could carry on our fight against the British Imperialism without the help of these people—nay, with these people arrayed against us, and using their talent and experience crushing our movement—I cannot understand why we cannot carry on the work without the help of these Secretaries.

There are the administrative heads. Then why should you have a Secretary to intervene between the Head of the Department and the Honourable Minister? In the Posts and Telegraphs Department for some time the Director of Posts and Telegraphs has been working as the Secretary. In the Health Department it is the Surgeon-General who is working as the Secretary. Again in the Education Department it is the Educational Adviser who is working as the Secretary. Why should we have so many persons here? If there is a shortage of I.C.S. people, the less we employ them in these Posts the better for us. We should have administrators who should work as Secretaries.

Then again they may be specialists in one branch. But wherever there is room for promotion they are sent from this Department to that—even for a period of three or four months they are sent from the Defence Department to Information and Broadcasting and from there to some other place.

Then we find that superannuated persons are being recruited—those who have retired, and who had joined business houses or those who had gone to the States and being re-employed in the Government of India.

I have already spoken about the extra staff. The sooner the extra additional staff is removed from the Secretariat the better for every one of us. I do not say that they should all go into the streets; but for God's sake they should be removed from the Secretariat. They are overcrowding the Secretariat, they are infecting idleness and inefficiency and they are breeding corruption and the sooner they are sent out of the Secretariat the better for every one of us.

Then you have got the "show" of work. If you go to the Secretariat, you find everybody with little work. I have a suggestion to make and that is this. We must have efficiency squads. These efficiency squads must be deputed to every Department. There should be say five or six squads; they should not be composed of the I.C.S. people but should be formed out of Class II and III officers. They should go and see how much work each Department has and how it is disposed of, whether the communications that are received are acknowledged and replies despatched, and action taken in the minimum possible time. Is there any business house where a letter remains unacknowledged for three months or where every time you go and enquire you would be told, "Kindly send another copy"?

In addition to high salaries, then we have got recreation allowance. I think some recreation allowance has been recommended for these gentlemen; although they have high salaries still they want that allowance. During war this innovation was made that for going to the hills they must be paid Rs. 150 for themselves and Rs. 150 for their wives. I understand that a proposal is being made that it should be continued and I am afraid that it might be introduced after the Budget is passed because then the House will not be able to go into the matter.

Then there is unjust distribution of work. Some of the staff are overworked and some of them are underworked although they make show of work. I would like that the appointments that have been made during the last year or six months must be enquired into; we will find how nepotism is going on. Communism may have gone, but there is provincialism, there is sectarianism and there is nepotism.

Then about the national language. While we do encourage everyone of us here to talk in the national language, no subordinate can talk in any other language than English to his Secretary or Deputy Secretary or even Under-Secretary. What do they think? These gentlemen in five years time are supposed to learn our language, to work in the national language. And they do not encourage that language!

Then we have got the national dress. While we have prescribed a national dress for our Ambassadors and others, here the old British tie and collar continue.

[Shri Mohan Lal Saksena]

Unions and associations of employees are not encouraged. I think it is time that these should be encouraged and there should be more intimate contact not only between the Secretaries and the subordinate staff, but also between the Ministers and the subordinate staff. They should have periodical conferences with them and the staff must have occasions to bring their grievances to the notice of the Minister.

One thing more and that is about the service books. All sorts of remarks are put in the service book and there is no appeal. There is nobody to check whether what is done is right or not. I know of some persons engaged in the Secretariat and I think every Member here knows them—they come to them. They say, "This remark has been put in the service book, it is baseless but there is no appeal". I think there should be some machinery provided for going into the question as to whether these remarks are justified or not.

I have already spoken of the heads of the Departments, and their Deputy Secretaries and Under-Secretaries. Why should we have so many of them? Even for the Minister without Portfolio, we have got a Secretary without portfolio and a Deputy Secretary without Portfolio.

I have to say a few words about the Public Service Commission. The other day our Maulana Sahib talked about new weights, measures and new *tarasu*, but what about the persons who are using these weights and scales? Their mentality is the same—they are brought up in the bureaucratic spirit; they have no regard for those persons who have suffered for the sake of the country. If these people go before them they are as much disqualified as before. What I want is that there should be a radical alteration in the personnel of the Federal Public Services Commission. I do not want that it should have a Party colour, but I want that there must be persons there who must appreciate patriotism, who must be public-spirited, who must appreciate adventure in our youth. Then alone will we derive the benefit out of it. After all, the Public Services Commission is a sieve through which all posts go just as for flour we have one kind of sieve, for rice we have another kind of sieve. It may have been a good machinery for the old days when these retired officials or the senior I.C.S. officials were appointed to the Public Services Commission. I think the time has come when the personnel of the Commission should be changed. I think we can have patriotic men—not necessarily politicians—who may be appointed to the Public Services Commission.

Then, Sir, about appointments in the Departments where the Head of the Department sits and goes through the applications. I know how these Secretaries are carrying on their nepotistic activities. One Secretary whispers into the ear of another Secretary that the Prime Minister wants this man to be appointed and the other Secretary speaks to his master who thinks it must be correct because after all Secretaries were responsible men. There is such a case within my knowledge Sir. The blame goes to the Prime Minister or the Minister without his knowledge. I know these gentlemen who have suffered in the cause of the country would never stoop so low as to recommend for one man or another or their relations or friends. It is these Secretaries who place the Ministers in such an embarrassing position.

After all, you know what happened, Sir, the other day when the Maulana spoke. A note was circulated to us and I know it is the Secretary or Deputy Secretary who did this, and the person responsible must be called to explain why such a thing had happened.

Lastly, Sir, I would say that Sardar's illness has come to us as a warning. We know that Mahatmaji's death, unfortunate as it was, gave us a warning that there was danger to the safety of our Ministers and at our request the Prime Minister and the Ministers have accepted our suggestion to have bodyguards and shadows and have adopted other safety measures for the safety

of their persons in the interests of the nation. But I see another danger, and that is one revealed by the Sardar's illness. Our Ministers are being over-worked. How tremendous is the strain which they are undergoing in the cause of the country is well known to all of us. It is, we know, a high sense of duty and patriotism which impel them to work late hours and carry on their multifarious activities, but still in the interests of the country, it is necessary that they should be relieved of the pressure of work, so that they may preserve and conserve their energies and they may live long and give us their guidance. I hope, Sir, that the Sardar will soon recover. That is the prayer of all of us. We want him to have a speedy recovery. Still, we want that he should not exert himself in the manner he has been doing, because we want his guidance for long on the critical problems that are facing us. I hope that a special note of this will be made and concrete steps will be taken in the next two months to re-organise the Secretariat and to deduce the over-staffing that exists. They may be utilised for the spread of literacy and so many other national activities. Sir, I have done.

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. Speaker: I may say that I am going to call upon the Honourable Minister to reply to both the cuts at Ten minutes past Three.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh (C.P. and Berar: General): Mr. Speaker, the subject that I wish to discuss at the moment is concerning the Hyderabad Issue. While speaking on this, I am conscious that we have had quite a good deal of information on this question from replies in answer to questions put by Honourable Members of this House and from statements made by the Honourable the Prime Minister as well as the Minister in charge of the Departments. Even so there is in the minds of most people, at any rate, a very large number of people, a sense of dissatisfaction at the way in which the Hyderabad issue has been tackled and is still pending. Some of the Honourable Members of this House whilst making speeches on the previous motion have already referred to the causes that determined the attitude of some of the people, especially the members of the R.S.S. towards the present Government. In the opinion of quite a large number of people, Sir, the assassination of our dear Mahatmaji was not the act of a solitary individual gone mad. It was according to them a sort of a climax of an intense a sense of dissatisfaction and frustration that a set of people in India felt. This sense of frustration and disappointment arose as a result of their view of the attitude and policy of our Government towards not only the State of Hyderabad or the Muslims in general, but our attitude towards our neighbouring state of Pakistan. Sir, my friend have complained that in trying to suppress the R.S.S. we were guilty of denial of civil liberties that we were resorting to excesses, that we were putting in jails people who were completely innocent. Sir, while on the one hand it is necessary that the R.S.S. should be dealt with a strong hand, it is also necessary to look into the causes which led to the mentality from which every member of the R.S.S. has suffered and is still suffering and those causes, Sir, not only affect the minds of the members of the R.S.S. but there is a huge number of people who although not members of the R.S.S. are dissatisfied with our attitude towards Pakistan. Innumerable grievances concerning the treatment or rather the ill-treatment of the non-Muslims in Pakistan have been ventilated on the floor of the House. When people compare the way in which the Government of Pakistan deals with the minorities there and when they compare the gentleness, and the over-generous way in which we look at the same set of people here, a large section of our people feel an amount of dissatisfaction. It was the result of this sense of disappointment that many peoples' minds have been affected.

[Dr. P. S. Deshmukh]

So far as Hyderabad is concerned, Sir, we have been told when a statement was made on the floor of this House by the Honourable Minister in charge on the 29th of November that this was along with Kashmir and Junagad one of the three States that had not acceded to the Indian Union till then. Although Kashmir and Junagadh had been mentioned then as States which had not acceded, we all know that both these states have now completely and finally acceded to the Indian Union and there can be no question about their accession raised in any quarter. But so far as Hyderabad is concerned, a standstill agreement was concluded. The House, Sir, did not manifest much dissatisfaction at the time this news was conveyed to it and most of the members of this House refrained from criticising this standstill agreement. But events that occurred on the borders of Hyderabad, inside Hyderabad as well as in the territories under the Indian Union have been a matter of grave concern to all of us not only before the standstill agreement was concluded, but ever since. When the Honourable Sardar Vallabhai Patel made a statement before this House with regard to the Hyderabad issue, he had hopes, Sir, and all of us hoped that circumstances would alter and the situation would undergo a change. Unfortunately, Sir, it is my painful duty to point out that instead of the situation bettering, it is worsening in every respect and the news is pouring in almost daily of the excesses committed by the Hyderabad *Ittehad-Ul-Muslimeen* not only inside the borders of the Hyderabad State, but even outside. So, Sir, while considering this issue, we have to consider it not only from the point of view of our capacity to deal with an Indian State, however large or small, but also from the point of view of the tranquillity and peace of our country and the safety of the property and the lives of our people. It is from that point of view, Sir, that I would urge the Government to consider the matter and whether it is not time that we took some firmer steps than we have so far taken, so that the properties and lives of our people are safe. We for a moment may even disregard what is happening inside the Hyderabad State. Of course, that is also a matter of very intimate concern to us because those people are not any different from people living in the Indian Union. But even so, if merely for argument's sake they were left to their fate so far as the Hyderabad subjects are concerned, those outside Hyderabad have got a claim on us. We are responsible for any inconvenience or hardships they may suffer from, I think, the way in which we are dealing with this; some at the moment we can hardly say that we are discharging the responsibility properly, in any case not to the satisfaction of the people of India. So, the House, I think, is entitled to know all the details and have an explanation as to what is going to happen in the immediate future and to what extent it will be possible for us to protect our own people on the borders. Day in and day out we hear of raids; we hear of properties being carried away, cattle being stolen and people being looted. When all this is going on the people are bound to feel distressed and nervous and they are accusing this Government of inactivity and lack of consideration. I do not think, Sir, it is good for any Government that its capacity of protecting its own people should be doubted or disputed. It is therefore, Sir, necessary that the Government should tackle the issue at an early date more firmly. I think there are a large number of speakers on this issue and therefore, I do not wish to take any more time of the House.

Mr. Tajamul Hossain (Bihar: Muslim): Sir, history tells us that 'here was a time when everything existed for the ruler. The people existed for the ruler whose word was law. Louis XIV of France is reported to have said, "*L'Etat, c'est moi*" (I am the State). But now the times have considerably changed and they have changed for the better. Now the rulers do not count; it is the people who count and everything now exists for the people and the rulers are simply the servants of the people. Sir, most of the States were

at one time merely the provinces of the Central Government; I do not think there was any State in India which was independent with external sovereignty. And all these States which were really provinces of the centre had as their rulers people called Subahdars who are now called Governors. The difference between the Governors of those days and the Governors of the present day is only this that in those days the period of office was not fixed; he might be Governor for life or in perpetuity or from generation to generation. But now the term of office of the Governor is fixed. When the British came out to this country and became its rulers they thought they would not be able to remain in India long if they had direct contact with the people. They did not want to have any connection with the people, and they devised two methods for this. They created two institutions; those who were Subahdars of provinces were recognised as perpetual rulers of the province which was called a principality; and the petty holders of land scattered everywhere were called *Zamindars* or *jagirdars* or *talukdars*. The princely order, whether they had or did not have internal powers, were the real backbone of British rule, and they did everything to support the British people in ruling this country. And in recognition of their services titles were showered upon them, like Maharaja and Knighthood, and so on. But the British did not realise that the world's greatest man in modern times would be born in this country and open the eyes of the people who would see that they were slaves who by his nonviolent methods would succeed in turning them out of this country. Alas, he is no longer with us though he is with us in spirit. But the point is that the British had to go. And as soon as they went away we had the rule of the people here. The first thing we did was to abolish this feudal system and the intermediaries known as *Zamindars*. And in every province there is an attempt—which I hope will succeed in the end—to abolish these intermediaries. But then I am unable to understand the anomalous position that is being created. In the centre there will be a republic,—I presume and hope it will be socialist republic. In the provinces there will be the rule of the people but in some part of India the old feudal system will continue as before. Our Government say there is some difficulty about it; we cannot get rid of these people because when the British were going away they told these so-called Princes, "We are going away after creating two Dominions; it is for you to accede to either of them or to become independent. Paramountcy has lapsed." But are we going to act up to the advice of these people who have gone from here? Were they not our enemies throughout? Did they not try to throttle us in every way when we tried to achieve our freedom? I will advise my Government to abolish this princely order forthwith as the *Zamindaris* are being abolished. There should be no princely order anywhere and every State without exception should go. There should be our Governors; they were Governors in perpetuity and now they should be our Governors for a fixed period, say, five or six years, and nothing beyond that. Why should the Princes be given any compensation? I am not in favour of giving anything to them. They have extracted enough money in cash and kind from the poor people of the land; they hoarded enormous amounts of cash and jewellery and they are far more wealthy than any one of us. Let them go away unsung and unhonoured. But there is one class of people on whose behalf I will appeal to the Prime Minister, and these are the rulers and *Zamindars* who were the first people to fight against the British in 1857. Some died on the battle-field while others were hanged or shot dead, their properties and estates were confiscated. With regard to such people I want to know what the policy of Government is, whether they are going to be compensated or not. I submit, Sir, that these are the only people who are entitled to compensation and compensation must be given to them.

There is one aspect of the matter which I want to mention before I deal with Hyderabad. Supposing there is a war and some foreign power invades India, do you think for a moment that these so-called ruling Princes will side

[Mr. Tajamul Hosain]

with us? Are they not sorry now that the British have left and some of them have to merge with other States or provinces? If left as they are—as feudal lords—they will become fifth columnists and attack us when we are attacked by a foreign power. Therefore I submit that the princely order must be abolished forthwith.

Now I will deal with Hyderabad. In 1713 the ancestor of the present Nizam of Hyderabad—Asaf Jah—was appointed Subahdar by the then Central Government. In 1800 there was a treaty of alliance between the East India Company and the then Nizam in which the latter has been described as Subahdar.

Maulana Hasrat Mohani (U. P.: Muslim): What is he now?

Mr. Speaker: Let the Honourable Member proceed.

Mr. Tajamul Hosain: To answer my Honourable friend I will say that he is now the same Subahdar that he was in 1800. If he was prepared to accept a Subahdarship under the East India Company, why should he not accept it under us? We are now his masters.

Sir, I was saying that the Nizam never exercised external powers, and a State which does not exercise external powers cannot be described as an independent sovereign State. No doubt the British created the Nizam perpetual ruler of that principality but the Nizam always remained a subordinate vassal of the British Empire. He received titles and honours like Farzand and Arjuman of Britannia and so on, and also "His Exalted Highness", etc. But it was only 12 years ago in 1936 that the present Nizam agreed to accede to the Federation of India. Does that not show that he has always been a subject and a vassal of the Central Government? Sir, the British have always claimed to be the successors of the Moghul Empire and no doubt we are the successors of the British Government; and so the Nizam is nothing better than a Subahdar. He was Subahdar during the East India Company and during the British rule he was Subahdar. Now that the real rulers in the shape of the people come in, he says, "No, I will not accept you". I am afraid he is making a fool of us and we are showing weakness. Our Government is showing weakness. I cannot understand the idea of appointing an Agent-General. Does the Honourable the Prime Minister think that by sending him the State will accede to the Indian Dominion? Do you think the Nizam will ever come down? I say that negotiations are a waste of time, money and energy. The Honourable the Prime Minister the other day in answer to a supplementary question of mine said that he wanted to know the wishes of the people of Hyderabad as to whether they will accede or not. But I will ask the Prime Minister how is he going to ascertain the wishes of the people as long as the people are under him. Unless you take possession of the State you cannot get the people over to you.

I would advise the Honourable the Prime Minister that the first thing he should do is to stop negotiations; secondly recall the Agent General; and thirdly march an army there at once. I am sure that within a couple of days you will capture the whole of Hyderabad. It is not Kashmir and nobody can come to the help of Hyderabad.

My time is up although I would like to say more. I however believe that there should be no princely order. It does not matter whether Kashmir goes over to Pakistan or not but in the Dominion we must have one Government throughout.

Mr. Speaker: I would just inform the House that the clocks have stopped working. I am going according to my own watch.

Shri B. N. Munavali (Deccan and Madras States Group): Sir, the time at my disposal is very short. So I will touch on only some of the points. As regards the policy that has been adopted by our Government in the interests of the States, it is entirely to the satisfaction of the people, and Sir, I may tell you that Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, who is in charge of the States Ministry, has won the admiration of the States' people by handling these affairs in the most tactful manner.

About a month or two ago, when I had the opportunity of speaking in this House on the Extra-Provincial jurisdiction Bill, I said that in the Deccan States a union was going to be formed and a Covenant that was drafted by the Rulers was being thrust upon the people against their will. But, Sir, in the meanwhile the visit of Sardar Patel to Cuttack which induced the Chatusgarh States to merge, had such a dramatic effect both on the Rulers and the ruled that the ruled were encouraged to agitate for merger: the ruler began to quake with fear and so they accepted merger. Today we see that a number of States have merged. However, after the merger so many points have arisen. The areas which ought to be taken into certain districts have not been properly adjusted. On this point, I request the Government that the wishes of the people should be taken into consideration. And in the normal fight that the people have put up for the establishment of responsible Government or a merger, so many have suffered and the property of so many have been confiscated and they have not been returned. I tell you, for example, Sir, that in Ramdurg, which took the lead for establishing responsible Government and also for getting certain grievances redressed, although there was an amicable settlement on the 26th February 1939, after the settlement the State authorities took it into their heads that the Praja Sangh, which was an organised institution, should be put down and all of a sudden, they went to repress that institution, and when on the 5th April 1939, the repression started and the leaders were thrown into prison for no fault of their own, at once there was such a terrific agitation among the people on account of the repression and on account of the news that was spread by the police that their leaders were done to death, that the people of the whole State marched from the villages and they wanted to see their leader who was kept in jail. But the authorities concerned, instead of showing them their leader, began to fire on the people without knowing that they had sufficient cartridges. When the cartridges were exhausted, then the Superintendent of the Jail came howling before their leader and asked him to pacify the mob. The mob was pacified and went away. Still the authorities were not satisfied. Somehow or other they wanted that something should be committed by the people, and again the police came in a lorry and began to fire on the mob which was going away calmly. At this they were infuriated and some murders also took place. Thereafter, taking advantage of this position, the military was called and on the evening, the shops 3 P. M. of many merchants were looted. Nearly 35 shops were looted and property worth more than two lakhs was taken away and that too under the nose of the ruler and at the instigation of the Dewan, the Deputy superintendent of Police and the Sub-Inspector. The police were in the loot. Although all these things happened, yet at the time of the enquiry, when witnesses were coming on behalf of the people, they were terrified. In spite of this terror, they went to give their evidence, but the very next day, they were found clapped in jail. Such was the harrowing tale. At that time, quite a lot of property was confiscated, including that of the president of the Praja Sangh. He came only 15 minutes late to the court, as the river was in floods and he was delayed. His property was confiscated, not only his share but the share of his son and brother and it was kept in their own possession. There are other serious cases also. The properties of many such persons have been taken away and their families have been thrown on the streets. All along they have been

[Shri B. N. Munavalli]

left abegging; and after seven years when the ban on the Praja Sangh was removed and when we went to Ramdrug and we claimed that our properties be restored, the Raja delayed the matter. Without giving any responsible government or appointing any persons from the Praja Sangh as ministers he went on delaying and now he has merged his state. I request that the Government should take note of the properties confiscated and restore them to the persons who have fought heroically and won the freedom and saw to it that these states have merged.

As regards the administrations in the states, they have been topheavy. Most of the officers are not required now. If they are removed immediately, we will be saving a large amount of expense. I am requesting the Government that immediate steps should be taken in that direction also.

As regards Hyderabad, the Standstill agreement of one year is not very happy. All states people are looking to this one important problem of Hyderabad. Hyderabad people are being tormented in all possible ways. Of course the struggle which has been started, is still going on, and the people are determined to see that the struggle goes on, until they get responsible government. However, it is an important matter and the Government should see that the Nizam of Hyderabad yields and accedes to India not for a temporary period but permanently. Otherwise, the Government should deal with the matter, as quickly as possible, to strengthen the hands of the people who have been all along suffering. Sir, I have done.

Dr. Sachchidananda Sinha (Bihar: General): Sir, I shall be very brief in my submissions to you. I am profoundly grateful to you for permitting me to address the House sitting.

We are very sorry that the Honourable Minister for States is ill. We wish him speedy recovery, and I hope the Honourable Mr. Gadgil will convey to him our good wishes for his return to the House as soon as possible.

I am here today to bring to the notice of the Honourable Mr. Gadgil, who is representing the States Ministry, and also of the Honourable Members of the House, to two grievances in regard to the Province of Bihar. These grievances are in relation to the states that had either merged or were going to merge, or may ultimately merge in the province of Bihar itself, or in the neighbouring provinces, the Central Provinces, on the one side, and Orissa, on the other. There has been a long and an unfortunate controversy between these three provinces; and I have not the least desire to add to the controversy by referring in detail to any unpleasant matters or incidents; but the dispute between Bihar and Orissa has already led to a serious riot, and a number of people had been killed. The States Ministry have now appointed a Bombay High Court Judge to act as the Commissioner or Arbitrator; and I understand that this learned judge will soon be going to adjudicate upon the matter. In view of that fact we shall wait until he comes to Bihar, or goes to Orissa, and we shall lay before him our grievances against what we consider to be the wrong action of the States Ministry in this particular matter, and we shall abide by his decision, whatever it may be. I may inform the Honourable Mr. Gadgil that in regard to both the grievances the Bihar Government have prepared elaborate memoranda, which have been formally submitted. I think, to the Secretary in charge of the States Ministry, and which memoranda, if he so desires, I shall be very glad to furnish him with.

In regard to the Central Provinces the matter stands thus. When many years back the partition of Bengal was effected by Lord Curzon, a number of Bihar States were allowed to be transferred from the jurisdiction of the Commissioner of the Chhota Nagpur Division of Bihar to the jurisdiction of the

Commissioner of the Chhatisgarh Division. That has remained so far; but as no question of accession or merger arose till now the people of Bihar did not agitate about it. Now that the question of merger or accession is going to be settled we have submitted a memorandum showing that all these states, or at least as many of them as the States Department think it right and proper, should accede to Bihar, and the rest may go to the Central Provinces. Our position, I submit, is a very fair one. We follow the lead of the Honourable the Prime Minister, who said yesterday at Vizagapatam, that while he does not desire to encroach upon the rights of others he will not permit others to encroach upon our rights. We in Bihar take the same attitude in this particular matter, and I hope the Honourable Mr. Gadgil will consider my request reasonable and fair, which is that when this learned Judge of the Bombay High Court, comes to investigate and record evidence, or in any way that he thinks it proper to decide the dispute between Bihar and Orissa, he may also be asked or authorised to settle the dispute between Bihar and the Central Provinces.

The Honourable Shri N. V. Gadgil: Mr. Speaker, Sir several cuts have been moved with respect to matters falling under the Home Ministry as well as matters falling under the Ministry of States. I propose to deal with most of them as briefly as possible for it is most difficult within a short space of forty minutes to do full justice to every aspect of criticism that has been levelled in the course of the debate this morning and also this afternoon.

With respect to the cut motion which has been moved by my Honourable friend Mr. Deshbandhu Gupta and which was supported by the representative in this House from Ajmer-Merwara I only want to say that the whole matter is in a sort of melting pot. The Constitution has been prepared and the draft has been circulated. This question will be dealt with permanently and I hope in a satisfactory manner in the Constituent Assembly. There are only a few months left between now and the time when the New Constitution will come into force. Meanwhile I would ask the Honourable Members concerned to put up with some inconvenience which they have put up with for many many long years. But as a matter of fact this Advisory Council scheme came into existence as a result of representations made by the very Honourable Members who have participated in today's debate. It may not be entirely satisfactory and there are good reasons, such as constitutional and political, why it cannot be entirely satisfactory.

The next question that was raised in connection with these Centrally administered areas was about the security measures. Mr. Speaker, a few days ago the Honourable the Deputy Prime Minister gave details about the situation in Delhi and the main fact that he pointed out was that immediately after partition when disturbances started here there was desertion in the police ranks on a very large scale both here in Delhi as well as in Ajmer. In Delhi the total strength was about 3,500 out of which only a thousand were left, the rest deserting. In Ajmer-Merwara 50 per cent of them were Muslims and they also deserted. The House can well imagine the difficulties which the Honourable the Home Minister had to face and I should say it is a great tribute to his tact and resourcefulness that within a short space of two weeks he brought the whole situation under control and imported police from the provinces of C.P. and U.P. Recruitment has started and it is expected that the full complement will be available in good order in the course of a few months, and the new plan is that even in a great emergency there should be no recourse to military. That is the plan on which the Ministry has been working.

As regards other matters during the disturbances, it was not that there was any lack of determination to go to the full measure in taking precautions. The apparatus of the state was brought into full operation. Two thousand people were arrested, meetings were banned, proceedings were taken against

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newspapers; in fact everything that was expected of this Government was done. I do not think therefore that I need waste any more time on his.

The third out motion, which was moved by Prof. Shibbanlal Sakseena, dealt with civil liberties. He went on to point out that there has been a process of indiscriminate arrests following the assassination of Mahatma Gandhi. He gave certain instances, and certain other instances were given by Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava. Our critics cannot have it both ways: they cannot say that this Government has been weak and at the same time accuse Government of being so strong that there has been a process of indiscriminate arrests. When we talk of civil liberties it must have reference to normal times. When we are living in abnormal times when the very existence of the state is challenged by a section of the community or a well-organized group, then it is not only the duty of the state but the duty that the state owes not only to the present generation but to the generations to come that it must bring into operation swiftly whatever apparatus it has and put it down with a heavy hand. Sir, you are aware of the way in which Mahatma Gandhi and certain Congress leaders were abused in the Mahratti press, and when that paper which was edited by the assassin of Mahatma Gandhi was asked to deposit security there was a regular howl against the Provincial Government of Bombay from all quarters—Communists, Socialists, and Congressmen and everybody who counted for public life in that Province. Now, when this violent propaganda has ended in the assassination of Gandhiji they suddenly turn round and accuse the Government of being weak. All I want to say is this that this policy—the policy of strong government you may call it—will remain in force so long as the needs of the situation justify it. There is not the slightest desire on the part of the Government to detain a single person beyond what the exigencies require. So far as Delhi is concerned there are three hundred persons detained and about ninety are detained in the Ajmer-Merwara Commissioner's area. Their cases are being reviewed and they will be reviewed from time to time. Everybody will be released unless there are strong grounds to suppose that he is involved in criminal activities or if released there is a possibility of the revival of those activities the putting down of which was the objective of this Government. A point was made by the Honourable Member, Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava, as to why they should not be tried if there was enough evidence. The House knows, Sir, that there are cases in which it is not possible to prove in the judicial sense but all the same the moral proof is there, and some discretion must be given to the executive government if the government is to govern. The essence of executive action is arbitrariness and swiftness. And, as I said, you cannot have it both ways. You cannot call the government weak, hesitant and at the same time when it takes action, not a minute earlier but just at the right time and takes the right sort of action, you cannot suddenly turn round and accuse it of being repressive in the name of civil liberty.

Mr. Huseain Imam (Bihar Muslim): How many of these three hundred men detained in Delhi were Muslim National Guards?

The Honourable Shri N. V. Gadgil: I cannot give it offhand. The point is this, Sir, that as Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava has said, it goes against the grain of Congressmen to resort to such action. I share that feeling and I have no doubt that the Government shares that feeling. But the use of such measures is reduced to a minimum both in extent and in point of duration also. At the same time, if the necessity of maintaining law and order is well appreciated, and without which there cannot be progress, peace or prosperity, these powers must be left to the Government.

I do not claim that this Government, or for the matter of that any Government, is infallible. After all a Government consists of men and they are bound

to commit mistakes. But I can assure you that this Government is not obstinate and if any instance in which a mistake has been committed is pointed out, I assure you that justice will be done at once.

Reference was made to the speech of the Deputy Prime Minister which he delivered a few months ago at Lucknow. It was pointed out by the same speaker why an attempt should not be made to win over these youngmen who merely are doing some sort of physical training and drill. What the Deputy Prime Minister said in that speech was that after the attainment of freedom there was no necessity for the Hindu Mahasabha organisation or the R.S.S. and that they should merge in the Congress and do useful social service. He also pointed out that *lathi* was not the solution, or the only solution of this problem. I wish to point out, Sir, that this Government is very much alive to the fact that the basis of state is the consent of the governed. A willing citizen is an asset; a repressed citizen is a potential danger. At the same time it should be remembered that when you have cast the responsibility of maintaining law and order on this Government, it is only expected of the members of this House and the public at large that they should give their whole-hearted support to the Government. As no reference has been made to any other aspect of civil liberties, I do not want to take up the time of the House.

Prof. Shibban Lal Saxena: What about labour and kisan arrests?

The Honourable Shri N. V. Gadgil: I think I have covered that

Then, Sir, while a cut motion was moved by 'left' Saxena, criticism was indulged in by 'right' Saxena. He referred to certain aspects of Secretariat recruitment, and some other points, which if I were to deal in detail, will take me a couple of hours. I do not propose to do that. I will say nothing about the dress and diet and other matters which are the individual concern of the I.C.S. officers. I will in this connection only refer the House to the compliment that was paid to the members of this service by the Deputy Prime Minister a few months ago on the floor of the House. It is possible, Sir, that some of us may not be able to get over the prejudice which has been very carefully nursed in us in the course of the last so many years in which we have been brought up in an atmosphere of agitation. I may tell you, Mr. Speaker, from the personal experience of my own Ministry that the few I.C.S. officers I have have adjusted themselves well within a short time of fifteen days. I have never found them impeding or pigeon-holding any scheme. On the other hand, they are very anxious to cooperate. After all, let us remember they are Indians and they are now in tune with the spirit of the times. If there are exceptions here and there that should not prejudice us to generalise in a manner which will instead of enabling us to get the best out of them will have the contrary effect. After all, in a democratic Government the permanent services must be left aloof from politics. Whatever politics may dictate us in the matter of dress or diet that should not be made applicable to them. It is for them to wear Gandhi cap or not. What I want to point out, Sir, is that the services should be kept aloof from politics.

It was pointed out by Mr. Mohan Lal Saxena that there are innumerable posts carrying more than Rs. 3,000 per month.

Shri Mohan Lal Saxena: I never said that.

The Honourable Shri N. V. Gadgil: Well any way you referred to high Salaries. There are 189 such posts in the Central Government out of which only 60 are held by members of the I.C.S. If the House decides that no public servant should be paid more than a particular sum by way of salary, that decision will be carried out.

Babu Ramnarayan Singh (Bihar: General): That has already been decided at Karachi.

The Honourable Shri N. V. Gadgil: So long as the sentence of execution is not carried, even the man under sentence is entitled to get his prescribed diet. If the House decides that no man should be paid more than 500 or a thousand or 1,500, or whatever it is, Government is bound to carry out that decision, and those who do not want to serve will find out alternative jobs for themselves.

As regards Reorganisation I may bring to the notice of the House that several attempts have been made for the reorganisation of the Secretariat. Before the war there were two committees appointed, the Wheeler Committee and the Maxwell Committee. During the war, Mr. Tottenham was appointed to draw up a scheme of secretariat reorganisation. The recommendations of all these committees have been mostly implemented. Recently another committee under the Chairmanship of Sir Girja Shankar Bajpai was appointed to suggest ways and means by which the secretariat machinery could be put on a sounder footing; some of its recommendations have been adopted. As the House is aware a Retrenchment Committee has been appointed, and if according to their recommendations it is found that the Secretariat is over-staffed it will be put on its optimum strength. Another direction in which Secretariat has been re-organised is the abolition of the War Department and the distribution of its work between the Defence and Home Ministries.

[At this stage, Mr. Speaker vacated the Chair, which was then occupied by Shri K. Santhanam (one of the Panel of Chairmen.)]

Mr. Saksena then referred to the composition of the Federal Public Service Commission. Under the Act, 50 per cent of the Members of the Commission must be persons who have put in ten years of service. His point was that no independent-minded persons are appointed. I want to bring to his notice that it is not so. There are in the Commission persons from public life and persons who were on the High Court Bench. Many improvements have been made in the matter of recruitment and promotion. If I were to detail all these, Mr. Chairmen, it will take quite a long time. I want only to assure Mr. Saksena that in whatever suggestions he may make in respect of economy and efficiency this Government will heartily cooperate.

Then the last cut was with respect to Hyderabad and the policy of the States Ministry with respect to States generally.

Before I proceed to say what I want to say about that, I want to reply briefly to two points which were made out by my Honourable friend Mr. Munavalli. He referred to certain problems which have arisen which are bound to arise after merger, such as the allotment of these states or parts of their territory to this district or the other, and the restoration of properties of those workers who have suffered. All I say at this stage is that they will be duly considered. As regards delimitation, it is necessarily bound up with the wider question, and when the wider question is discussed and decided, the question with respect to the areas which were under the jurisdiction of the Deccan States will also be decided. As regards the restoration of properties, now that these states have merged into the Indian Union, I have no doubt that the liberal and generous policy which has been the policy of the Indian Union Government will continue to be the policy with respect to these matters wherever there may be any occasion for consideration of the same.

Now Sir as regards the states history is moving so fast, as was well said by Mr. Munavalli, that it is very difficult to say anything with certainty as to what will happen with respect to any state tomorrow, and I join with the previous speaker, Mr. Munavalli, in paying the compliment he has said to the Honourable the Deputy Prime Minister. There are still four Groups of smaller states: 28 states of Malwa 32 states of Bundelkhand, the East Punjab States and the Gujerat States. The Deputy Prime Minister has deputed the Secretary of the Ministry of States to visit the necessary areas to discuss with the rulers and the people concerned the question of the future of these

states and I have every hope that a satisfactory solution will be evolved by the end of this month.

When all this has been accomplished, we shall have simplified very considerably indeed the problem of Indian States. We shall have reduced the States Units from more than 600 which existed before the 15th August 1947, to about 30. There would still be left a number of smaller States who, according to our standards, would not be viable units. We hope the Rulers of these States and their people will also follow the examples set by States elsewhere and will elect for merger or integration as might be suitable. There would, however, still remain a number of major States unaffected by this movement for merger or union. The States which have individual representation on the Constituent Assembly have been assured by the Government of India from time to time that they will be treated as separate viable units. In regard to them, the Government of India's policy is clear and unequivocal. There is no desire on our part, in any way, to compel or coerce them into merger or integration. If they wish to remain as separate autonomous units, we would have no objection, but if Rulers and the people of any of these States desire to merge with the neighbouring Province or form a Union with the neighbouring States on a voluntary basis, obviously the Government of India cannot say "No". It is in this context that proposals for the formation of Malwa and Bundelkhand Units which would involve States like Gwalior, Indore and Rewa should be judged. It is clear, however, that in these States, which remain separate units, there would be continuous popular pressure for the grant of full responsible government. I hope the Rulers of these States will appreciate the necessity of retaining the affection and goodwill of their subjects by timely concessions, rather than futile resistance, to popular demands.

I shall now turn to Hyderabad about which my friend Dr. Panjabrao Deshmukh spoke. Here again, we inherited a most difficult legacy. Practically every vestige of political relationship with the Crown had been sought to be wiped out by the late Political Department before they left. The cantonments were returned, the airfields were given back, the return of the Residencies had been promised and the withdrawal of troops had been stipulated for. Indeed, in our view, relationship with Hyderabad started with much worse handicaps than with other States. Nevertheless the House will recall that when Sardar Patel made his statement in this House on the 29th November last, and announced that an agreement had been concluded with the Hyderabad State he expressed the hope that agreement would bring Hyderabad closer to India, and that we could look forward to a relationship animated by cordiality and goodwill. The Government of India had at no time any doubt that, linked as Hyderabad is with India, the creation of an organic unit between the two by the accession of the State on the three subjects of Defence, External Affairs and Communications, would prove of lasting benefit to both and that it was a natural and logical step for Hyderabad to take, if it decided to accede to the Dominion of India. We have not changed an inch in this position and have made abundantly plain during all our negotiations with the Hyderabad Delegations. In this respect, therefore, there is no change whatsoever in Government of India's attitude to other States and that relating to Hyderabad. We stand by the advice which we have throughout given to the Hyderabad Government that it was in their interests to accede to the Indian Dominion and that as far as we know that was also consistent with the wishes of the people of Hyderabad.

Nevertheless, the position in Hyderabad was complicated by factors of which the Government of India could not but take cognisance. His Exalted Highness the Nizam had his internal difficulties with which we thought that a lapse of time might enable him to deal satisfactorily. We also felt that situated as he is it was for him a big decision to take and that given an atmosphere of friendship and cordiality it would be possible for him to come to the

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only right and proper decision, namely, accession to India. We also felt that the maintenance, for a limited period, of the *status quo* between us and His Exalted Highness the Nizam on the lines on which his relationship was regulated with the Crown Representative minus Paramountcy would promote this end.

We are, therefore, naturally disappointed to find that while we have spared no effort to make the agreement a success, on the part of the State the agreement has not been observed in the spirit in which it was intended to work. Breaches of the agreement have undoubtedly occurred. One of them was taking place even while the negotiations were on. These breaches have enhanced distrust and suspicion which the internal situation in the State has undoubtedly engendered not only in the neighbouring Provinces but all over India. Recently we have had discussions with the Hyderabad Delegations on the several points in dispute. I would not like, in any way, to prejudice the discussions which are still going on and are to be resumed by the end of the month. The House, I hope, will therefore bear with me if I do not enter into details. But I can assure the House that the Government of India are determined if the Government of Hyderabad would also help us, to find a satisfactory and friendly solution to the many problems of major and minor importance affecting both of us. I am sure, in this we have the entire support of this House because I feel convinced that this House, no less desires an amicable and peaceful solution if at all possible. We shall strain every nerve to achieve that peaceful solution; but at the same time I would be failing in my duty if I did not refer to two or three questions which, in our view, require more than a mere passing attention. This was referred to also by the Honourable Member, Dr. Punjabrao Deshmukh.

First there is the question of the border incidents. This is a most important issue because not only the peace and tranquillity of the whole of the Southern, Central and Western India hang on it, but also because these are symptomatic of the poisoned atmosphere that prevails and an evidence of the extent to which subversive activities inside the State are going on without apparently any check from the forces of law and order. When the agreement was reached in November, we had hoped that we could look forward to an era of goodwill and cordiality and put these happenings back in the past. We are sorely disappointed, therefore, to find that not only border incidents have not been stopped but they have continued to occur with even greater frequency and have lately assumed more formidable proportions. This is a development which we have viewed with great concern because as I have said the whole future of the peace and tranquillity in the South may depend on the speed with which these border incidents are put down. We are, therefore, anxiously waiting for an indication from the Government of His Exalted Highness the Nizam that they intend to deal with the situation with resoluteness and determination. I am sure nothing will promote—not even perhaps the remedying of the breaches of agreement that have occurred—the feelings of amity and goodwill between the Hyderabad State and the Indian Dominion than the stoppage of these raids. Within the relationship as determined by the Standstill Agreement between the Government of India and His Exalted Highness the Nizam's Government, the Government of India are doing their utmost to secure this objective. The question was discussed at a recent meeting of the Prime Ministers concerned and suitable counter-measures have been settled. We have impressed upon the Hyderabad authorities the need for concerted action to put an end to this increasing source of difficulty. We fully realise the causes far deeper than those that can be controlled by adminis-

trative action might be responsible for these raids; but that, Sir, would be no excuse for omission to act in the administrative sphere and I hope the Government of His Exalted Highness the Nizam will see that that action is taken before embitterment of relations which these raids undoubtedly produce reaches a more critical stage.

Secondly, we feel that it is time Hyderabad Government turned its attention very seriously to the internal forces which are not only undermining clandestinely as well as openly the established authority but are also spreading terror and fear in the local population. I refer, in particular, to the activities of the *Ittehad-ul Mussalmin* and its volunteer organisation known as the Razakars. The blatant speeches openly preaching hatred and spreading communal poison of the worst kind, which the leader of these organisations has been making apparently without any check from the local authorities are giving rise to misgivings about the *bona fides* of the State. The resultant oppression of the poor and defenceless Hindu population in the State is threatening the peace and tranquillity of the whole of the South. We would urge upon the Government of His Exalted Highness the Nizam to deal efficiently and effectively with this threat to law and order in the State and to amity and goodwill between Hyderabad and its neighbours.

Lastly, we feel that viewing the position as we do, we cannot have conditions conducive to lasting and stable amity unless a permanent settlement can be reached. I should also like to make it clear that we should ourselves like in Hyderabad State a Government which enjoys the confidence of the people as a whole. After all, it is primarily the settlement of this much larger question which is bound to determine the relationship between Hyderabad State and its neighbours. To that extent, therefore, the permanent remedy for causes of friction is the attainment of responsible Government by the people of Hyderabad, and the determination of the relationship between the Hyderabad State and the Indian Dominion in accordance with the popular wishes. We who believe in democratic institutions cannot obviously take a different view. Therefore, before ending my statement I make an earnest appeal for a friendly settlement of this most difficult question, not on the basis of prejudices or preconceived notions, but on the basis of neighbourliness and concord between the people of India and the people of Hyderabad. I hope even now the voice of wisdom and statesmanship would prevail over fanaticism and communal bigotry and that counsels of peace and friendship would supervene over forces of hatred and disorder. The choice, I need hardly say, lies with His Exalted Highness the Nizam. Let us hope he will make a wise choice and that our patience and forbearance which have withstood many provocations will at last have their just reward.

Mr. Chairman: Do the Honourable Members who have moved their cut motions want to press them?

Shri Doshbandhu Gupta: I beg leave to withdraw my cut motions.

Prof. Shibban Lal Saxena: I also beg leave to withdraw my cut motion.

Mr. Chairman: Have the Honourable Members leave of the House to withdraw their cut motions?

The cut motions were, by leave of the Assembly, withdrawn.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 34,75,000 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 Home Affairs'."

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 7,23,000 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 States'."

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 71,48,000 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 'Relations with Indian States'."

The motion was adopted.

DEMAND NO. 14.—MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING

Mr. Chairman: I think if the members are willing we will follow the usual practice of the cut motions not being formally moved.

Shri B. Shiva Rao (Madras: General): Mr. Chairman, Sir, before I speak of the Government's policy with regard to external publicity, I would like to dispose of one preliminary point which arises in connection with an observation I made last week in the debate on the External Affairs Estimate, and also certain observations made by the Prime Minister in his reply to that debate. Sir, I said that Pakistan had arranged with the British Information Services for its publicity in the United States. Now, that statement has been contradicted from New York by the representatives of the British Information Services and it has been asserted that as from 15th August the India Section of the B.I.S. has ceased to exist. Now, Sir, I want to make a very brief statement on that subject before the House. It is true that the India Section of B.I.S. has been dissolved on paper, but I have it on the authority of American journalist friends of mine that whenever they telephone to the British Information Services in New York the reply comes back "This is the India Section of the B.I.S. speaking," and I am referring to a period after the 15th August. I am not relying on hearsay evidence. In December last I went to the offices of the B.I.S. in New York and was told by the officials themselves that they answered in New York all enquiries relating to India and Pakistan, some of them being referred to them by the office of the Indian Trade Commissioner in New York. On the day that I visited their offices, I was informed by the officials of the B.I.S. that they had two visits from representatives of very prominent New York journals who wanted background material for writing articles on India and Pakistan.

Sir, I have no desire to dwell on a somewhat unsavoury past, but since some one statement made by the Prime Minister also has been contradicted, I feel bound to say this in fairness to him. All through the years of the war, the best seller in the United States was not Jawaharlal Nehru's Autobiography or anything written by Mahatma Gandhi but an infamous libel of Mahatma Gandhi written, I regret to say, by a Madras journalist who went round on lecturing tours throughout the United States very frequently arranged by the British Information Services. I made three attempts to send copies of that book to Mahatma Gandhi himself and succeeded on the third attempt. He authorised me to approach the publishers, the Oxford University Press, and contradict the libellous statements contained therein. I got no reply from the Oxford University Press. I also know this, that tens of thousands of copies of that book were distributed freely among the American troops. Sir, the British Information Services is a vast world organisation.

An Honourable Member: What is the name of the author?

Shri B. Shiva Rao: T. A. Raman, who is now employed in the U.N. Secretariat, not I am sure through the efforts of the present Government of India.

An Honourable Member: Had they purchased him?

Shri B. Shiva Rao: It is not necessary in the United States to be in any one's pay. Lectures are often handsomely paid for, from anything like 50 to 200 dollars for each lecture.

Sir, the fact is, as I was going to say, the British Information Services is vast world organisation. I have many friends on its staff, broad-minded men who are honestly convinced that it would be better for Great Britain to drop her imperialist role; but there are also others on the staff who cling to a past and all the methods of that past. Sir, I shall leave this point with that observation.

So far as external publicity is concerned, my task has been simplified somewhat by the statement made by the Prime Minister last week that he is contemplating the establishment, if I understood him aright, of a separate Section in the External Affairs Department to deal with public relations abroad. I prefer to call it 'public relations' rather than 'publicity' because I think it has a much wider connotation. Internal publicity, however well handled by the Bureau of Information, is utterly different from external publicity as I found myself during my visits to the United States. Even among newspaperman in that country, ignorance of India is profound. I remember, Sir, in 1945, at the time of the World Conference in San Francisco, Lord Wavell announced that he was having a Conference of our leaders at Simla. A leading paper in San Francisco came out with the headline, "India's Viceroy Summons Native Chieftains". And later when I visited the office of a big newspaper in Chicago and was honoured with an invitation to give an interview for publication in the next day's issue, the Chief Reporter of that paper started off with the usual questions about Hindu-Muslim riots, untouchability, child marriage and so on; and then suddenly he startled me with an enquiry: "How many amongst India's Muslims," he asked, "are Buddhists?" I was more tactful than the House, and in all seriousness explained to him that the two were very different religions, started at very different times in two very different countries. Now, these are just instances of the standard of knowledge that prevails even amongst newspapermen who, as you know, Sir are believed to be experts on almost every subject under the sun.

Now, the second point that I would like to make with reference to the Prime Minister's statement last week is this. He said that at the most Government would not think of employing more than six Indians in the United States for public relations work. All the greater reason I would urge therefore that these six men should be chosen with the utmost care. I cannot say that the Government has always been very wise or happy in its selection. I think it is wrong and unjust to ignore competent and experienced men in the Bureau of Information and go outside in search, not of experts, but of untried and inexperienced men. Sometimes it seems to me that the Government of India acts on a principle which has been suggested to me by friends of mine who say: "My son is a good boy but he cannot get through any examinations and cannot therefore qualify for any profession. Do you think he would make a good journalist?" I would suggest to the Prime Minister that he should without delay consider attaching to every Embassy and Consulate throughout the world and every High Commissioner's office a Public Relations Section under competent and trained men. I know that, that is not easy and in this connection I would like to inform the House that we, in the Asian Relations Organisation have been trying in our own humble fashion to train up young men for this kind of work. At the present moment perhaps it is a compliment to the effectiveness of our work. I am in danger of losing every one of my young men who are being absorbed in such work abroad. But I think it should not be difficult, if the External Affairs Ministry were to take an active interest in the matter, to work out the details of a scheme which will not cost much money but which would necessitate the

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securing of a certain amount of accommodation, to train up a certain number of young men who have done well in the Universities, who have an aptitude for journalism and who have agreeable personalities, in order that they may be sent abroad for such jobs. May I, Sir, in this connection add another suggestion of no less importance? From the various embassies and consulates and the High Commissioner's office, I would like the Prime Minister to ask for detailed and regular reports of conditions in their respective countries, because it is necessary that those reports—at least such parts of them as could be released to the press in this country—should be made available through press conferences. I know that the Prime Minister is an over-worked man and therefore cannot afford to take press conferences frequently. Nevertheless, as pressmen, we attach very considerable importance to press conferences in the External Affairs Department, and where it is not a question of policy, I would suggest that the release of material of this kind should be left to the senior officers of the Department to handle; because it is essential to build up an informed and intelligent public opinion on world affairs in this country.

I referred at the beginning to public relations rather than publicity because of its wide accommodation. A great deal can be done, as I know, on the cultural side in countries like the United States. For instance, Uday Shankar, the dancer, is remembered by thousands of Americans who are eagerly awaiting his return to America, and it will not cost this country any dollars, because he will earn more dollars than he spends going to the United States.

Another line of useful activity would be to send out art exhibitions of the kind that is now being shown in London. Such exhibitions, either temporary or even permanent, in the big cities of the United States would do a great deal to foster cultural relations between the two countries. Sir, I have spoken mainly about the United States, because I speak from experience, but I am certain that what I have said about the United States is applicable in more or less the same terms to other parts of the world. I would particularly request the Prime Minister to attach importance to the establishment of Public Relations offices in the countries of the Middle East and the countries of South Eastern Asia. I would like to see in our embassies comprehensive up-to-date libraries on India. I would like to see photographs of our archaeological monuments, of centres which may prove attractive to tourist traffic. I would like to see commercial samples and of all our cottage industry products, so that we may build up overseas markets for these things. At the present moment, we are spending a great deal of money in the United States, most of which, I regret to say, is utter waste. For instance we fly out regularly copies of a bulletin known as *Indian Information* which is reproduced at considerable cost in Washington and distributed in thousands. That is a complete waste of money, as I know from personal experience. We are spending quite a lot of money in running separate offices for the Indian Trade Commissioner, for the representative of the United Nations and for the New York branch of the India Supply Mission. In Washington we have a very big office for India's Ambassador and a separate one for the Public Relations Directorate. We are still maintaining a separate and very costly office for the India Supply Mission Headquarters in Washington, and all this money, which is now being wasted to a considerable extent, could be far better utilized in the way I have suggested. Sir, I move.

श्रीमती कमला चौधरी: माननीय अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं महत्त्व करती हूँ कि मुक्त के

जाजार होने के बाद सिर्फ यह कहने से कि हमें देश का नव नियमि करना है, हमें अपने देश को तरक्की की तरफ लेजाना है इस तरीके से काम नहीं चलेगा जब लोग इन बातों को नहीं समझेंगे। मैं समझती हूँ कि आज हमारी सरकार का जो प्रचार

विभाग है उसमें रेडियो प्रचार के लिए एक बहुत उत्तम साधन है आज के जमाने में विज्ञान की रेडियो बहुत बड़ी देन है। अतः सरकार को आज अपने प्रचार के इस क्षेत्र को विस्तृत करना चाहिये। मेरा मतलब सरकार की नीति की आलोचना करना नहीं है यह भी नहीं है कि हमारी गवर्नमेंट का उस ओर ध्यान नहीं है यह जरूर मैं महसूस करती हूँ कि इस जमाने में प्रचार विभाग का अधिक विस्तार होना चाहिये और जहाँ मैं देखती थी कि जब हमारा देश आजाद नहीं था ब्रिटिश हुकूमत के जमाने में रेडियो विभाग एक मनोरंजन का साधन बना हुआ था। केवल नगरों की शिक्षित जनता के लिये। मगर आज उसमें बड़ी भारी तबदीली हो गई है उससे मुझे बहुत ही प्रसन्नता हुई है आज हमारी राष्ट्रीय सरकार ने इस ओर ध्यान दिया है। रेडियो के साधन द्वारा उन बेपढ़े लोगों तक जिनकी संख्या हमारे मुल्क में बहुत ज्यादा है सरकार ने अपनी आवाज पहुंचाने की चेष्टा की उनका सुधार करने की तरफ हमारी सरकार का ध्यान गया स्पष्ट है कि हमारे मुल्क में जो भारी संख्या में ग्रामीण जनता है उनको सहायता पहुंचाने का रेडियो सर्वश्रेष्ठ साधन है लेकिन मैं देख रही हूँ जो तबदीली आज कल हो रही है वह क्षेत्र को एक तरीके से संकुचित और सीमित करने का ढंग जान पड़ता है और उससे बागे बहुत बड़ी हानि होने की सम्भावना है। मैं यह भी देखती हूँ कि हमारे हिन्दी के कई कलाकार इस विभाग में आ गये हैं और उन्होंने सुधार करने की कोशिश की है और अपने देश की जनता में राष्ट्रीय भावना उत्पन्न करने का भी प्रयत्न किया है। लेकिन साथ ही मैं यह भी देखती हूँ कि उन लोगों का अधिकतर ध्यान इस विभाग में उस तरफ लगा हुआ है, जैसा कि मुझे महसूस होता है कि उन्होंने समझ लिया है कि वह वहाँ साहित्य का प्रचार करें जो कि पढ़े लिखे लोगों तक ही सीमित कहा जा सकता है। मेरा अपना विचार है कि जो शिक्षित जनता है उनके पास जानकारी के अनेक साधन और तरीके हो सकते हैं, जैसे कि किताबें ख़बर आदि शिक्षित व्यक्ति अन्य साधनों से भी समाचार जान सकते हैं अन्य तरीकों से जानकारी हासिल कर सकते हैं। लेकिन हमारे देश में अधिक संख्या उन लोगों की है जो विचारे केवल अपने दस्तखत ही करना जानते हैं और वे लोग बड़ी २ बातों से महकन रह जाते हैं। हमारी सरकार किस प्रकार से देशकी उन्नति करना चाहती है इन बातों को जनता को जानना चाहिये। मगर प्रचार के अभाव में जनता इन ख़बरों से अनभिज्ञ रह जाती है। मेरा तात्पर्य गवर्नमेंट का ध्यान इस ओर आकर्षित करना है कि वह रेडियो द्वारा जो प्रचार करती है उसको सीमित न करे बल्कि उसको बहुत ज्यादा बढ़ाने की चेष्टा करे और जहाँ रेडियो नहीं पहुंच सके हैं वहाँ सरकार रेडियो ले जाने की कोशिश करे। जहाँ बिजली नहीं पहुंच सकी है वहाँ सरकार को चाहिए कि बैटरी द्वारा चलने वाले रेडियो का प्रबन्ध किया जाय। हमारे गांवों में जितने भी अनपढ़ लोग हैं उनमें भारी सुधार करना है जब कभी मैं उनके बीच में जाकर खड़ी होती हूँ तो

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मालूम होना है कि उन की जिन्दगी में बहुत भारी तबदीली और कायापलट की जरूरत है और मैं जानती हूँ कि हमारी सरकार भी ऐसा ही महसूस करती है किन्तु यह भारी परिवर्तन तभी सम्भव है जब रेडियो विभाग इस बात का पूरा ध्यान रखे कि हमको सबसे ज्यादा प्रचार जो करना है वह देश की अशिक्षित जनता में करना है। मेरी समझ नहीं आता कि आज जबकि अंग्रेजी और राष्ट्रभाषा के बीच एक संबंध छिड़ा हुआ है हम उसको महसूस करें या न करें लेकिन देश की जनता की एक कुदरती मांग है जिसे मैं समझती हूँ कि हमारी सरकार भी जरूर महसूस करती है कि आज हमारा काम बिदेसी भाषा और अंग्रेजी से चलने वाला नहीं है। बहुत जल्द हमें ऐसी उबान से काम लेना है, जो अपनी हो चाहे उसका नाम हिन्दी हो या हिन्दुस्तानी ?

इस बहुत में जाना मेरा तात्पर्य नहीं है लेकिन अब जनता में प्रचार के लिये या जनता के कार्म्य संवाहन के लिये जो भी भाषा हो वह सोचो सोचो मरल होनी चाहिये जिसे आसानी से हमारे सभी देशवासी समझ सकें, यदि कोई अपनी भाषा होगी जिस में अभिव्यक्ति हमारा काम चलेगा। अगर उसे बनाना है तो उसके ही जरिये आज प्रचार करना अच्छा होगा जहां तक मेरा क्याल है वह उबान ऐसी होनी चाहिये जो कि इस हाउस में सब सदस्यों से लेकर, एक राजमहल से लेकर, एक किसान की झोंपड़ी तक समझी जाय। तो भी इससे हमारे प्रचार का लाभ देश की जनता पा सकेगी और जो हमारे देश में अनपढ़ जनता है वह जल्दी व्यवहारिक अमल हासिल कर सकेगी। सरकार चाहती है कि किसी तरह से जनता में स्वास्थ्य और सेहत बनाने की भावना पैदा हो। अच्छा जीवन बनाने की भावना उत्पन्न हो और शारीरिक, मानसिक, आर्थिक सभी प्रकार से जनता का विकास हो किन्तु यह तभी होगा जब प्रचार विभाग इसके लिये पूरी कोशिश करेगा।

आज मेरी समझ में नहीं आता कि जब हम यह महसूस करने हैं कि हमने अपनी भाषा बनानी है और अपनी उबान बनानी है तो अंग्रेजी को इनना महत्व क्यों दिया जाता है। आज मैं देखती हूँ कि जितने काम समाचार होते हैं वह सब अंग्रेजी बुलेटिन में आते हैं वे हिन्दी की न्यूज़ प्रोग्राम में नहीं आते हैं।

मैं समझती हूँ मुख्य-मुख्य समाचार हिन्दी में आए तो उससे हमारे मुल्क की जनता का बड़ा फायदा होगा, हर एक आदमी उसे अच्छी तरह समझ सकेगा।

जहां तक प्रान्तीय भाषाओं का तात्लुक है उसमें भी मैं गाम-जस्य की उतरत महसूस करती हूँ और उसके लिये भी रेडियो संबंधी साधन हैं। अपने प्रांत का मुझे अनुभव है, मैं कह सकती हूँ कि हमारे यहां बोड़ी-बोड़ी दूर पर बहुत सी उबानें बोली जाती हैं जो कुछ जगह की बोलियाँ ऐसी भी हैं जो कि एक प्रांत के रहने वाले आसानी से नहीं समझ सकते। मैं समझती हूँ कि रेडियो इस सम्पर्क को बढ़ाने के लिये एक उत्तम उरिवा है। जो हमारे यहां की ग्रामीण भाषाएं हैं,

हमारे एक ही प्रान्त में भिन्नता से बोली जाती हैं, उन जबानों का प्रोग्राम रेडियो से सुव्यवस्थित ढंग से रक्खा जाय जिससे एक दूसरे का सम्पर्क बढ़े और लोगों में प्रत्येक जबान के प्रति दिलचस्पी पैदा हो। मैं समझती हूँ कि मुल्क का सुधार होगा और जैसा हम चाहते हैं कि एक राष्ट्र-भाषा बने, वह राष्ट्र-भाषा स्वतः ही हम बहुत जल्द बना सकेंगे। जहाँ तक मेरा ख्याल है, जो ग्रामीण भाषाएँ हैं उनको प्रोत्साहन देना आज बहुत जरूरी है और रेडियो सब से अच्छा जरिया है। रेडियो के स्थल से वह जबान जिसे हम लिटरेरी (Literary) जबान, या साहित्यिक भाषा कह सकते हैं उन्हें न बोल कर यह समय एक सरल भाषा के प्रचार में लगाया जाय।

हमारे यहाँ की ग्रामीण भाषाओं को वहाँ बोला जाय उस सामंजस्य को बढ़ाया जाये तो मैं समझती हूँ इस प्रचार से हम अपने देश का बहुत कुछ उद्धार कर सकेंगे।

इसी तरह, जैसा आज कल हर एक आदमी जानता है, हमारे यहाँ एक साम्प्रदायिकता की लहर फैली हुई और आज भी है। और उस मनोवृत्ति का प्रभाव हम पर एक वज्रपात के रूप में हमारे उपर हुआ। हमने अपने राष्ट्र क बहुत बड़ी निधि पूज्य महात्मा गांधी को लो दिया। मैं समझती हूँ इस मनोवृत्ति को नष्ट करने का भी रेडियो ही एक उत्तम साधन है जिसके जरिये हम अपने समाज में, अपनी अशिक्षित जनता के दिमागों में, अपनी संस्कृति और मन्थता के विकास के लिये जो हमें बड़ी-बड़ी तब्दीलियाँ करनी हैं वह कर सकते हैं।

मैं बहुत अदब के साथ अपने माननीय प्रधान मंत्री का ध्यान इस ओर ले जाना चाहूंगी कि यह जो रफ्तार आज कल रेडियो विभाग की चल रही है यह हानिकर है। हम देख रहे हैं कि एक वह स्थल जिसका क्षेत्र बहुत विस्तृत होना चाहिये, वह बहुत सीमित होता चला जा रहा है। इस लिये मैं उनका ध्यान इस ओर आकर्षित करना चाहती हूँ

(English translation of the above speech).

Shrimati Kamala Chaudhri (U.P.: General): Mr. Chairman, I feel it that after the dawn of independence in the country, the mere use of slogans that we have to reconstruct our country, and take it towards progress will not serve any purpose. The common men will not understand things in this way. I realise that the Radio is the best means of propaganda in the Publicity Department of our Government. In this scientific age, radio is a great invention. Therefore, the Government should enlarge its present sphere of activities in publicity. I do not mean to criticize the policy of the Government and do not say that it is not paying any attention to that. I do realize that in the present age the Broadcasting Department should be further expanded. During the days of British regime when our country was not free, I found that the Radio Department was exploited only for the recreation of the educated people living in the cities. But to day a radical change has been made which is a matter of great pleasure to me. Our national Government has now devoted its attention

[Shrimati Kainala Chaudhri]

to this aspect. The Government has tried to send its message by means of Radio to those illiterate masses who form the majority of the population of our country. Our National Government has now concentrated its attention on this matter. It is thus quite obvious that Radio is the best means for extending help to the villagers who are in an over-whelming majority in our country. But I feel that the changes which are taking place now seem to narrow the scope of activities of this organization. This is likely to prove injurious. I also observe that many of our Hindi Artists have joined this Department and they have strived to improve matters and inculcate a sense of nationalism in the minds of their countrymen. At the same time, I notice that while in the Department, these people have thought of devoting their energies mainly to the propagation of literature—the scope of which is confined only to the educated community. This is what I observe and my own feeling is that the educated people have many ways and means of gathering information such as from, books, newspapers, etc. The educated persons can also derive information from other sources. They can utilize other methods for obtaining information. In our country the majority of people know only how to sign their names and they are thus unable to understand many important matters. The public should know the manner in which our Government wants to ameliorate the condition of our country, but for want of publicity, the people remain ignorant. I would like to draw the Government's attention to this aspect that it should not narrow its sphere of propaganda through the Radio. On the contrary, it should try to promote its activities further. The Government should instal radios at places where this has not yet been done and should arrange for the installation of battery fitted radio-sets at places which are not electrified. We have to make considerable improvement in the lot of the illiterate masses inhabiting our villages. Whenever I go and stand amongst them, I feel that there is a great necessity for making a drastic change in their mode of living. I also admit that our Government feels like this but this tremendous change can only be brought about if the Radio Department realizes that they have to enlarge the scope of their propaganda activities mainly for the benefit of illiterate masses of the country. I fail to understand the present controversy about the English and the National languages of this country. We may or may not appreciate but I understand this is the natural demand of our people and the Government understands it that our business should not at present be conducted in any foreign language. We have to evolve very soon a language which may be called Hindi or Hindustani. I do not want to indulge in this controversy, but whatever language you may prescribe for propaganda amongst the masses or its use by them in daily routine, it should be quite simple and plain and easily understood by our people. If we are to adopt a language for conducting our future business, then it would be better to use it also as a medium for propaganda at present. So far as I think that language should be capable of being understood by everyone from all Members of this House and the princes to the villagers living in cottages. Only then the people will derive benefit out of our propaganda activities and the illiterate masses will become accustomed to its use. The Government want that somehow a desire for health-building and living a better life is created in the people and they are enabled to develop their physical and mental faculties and financial resources in every possible manner. All this can be achieved only if the Publicity Department will earnestly do its utmost in this direction. To-day I fail to understand why such an importance is being attached to the English language when we realize that we have to evolve a new language. At present I find that all the important news are incorporated in the English bulletin and these are not included in the Hindustani News Programme. I realize that if these important news are broadcast in Hindi, it would surely result in a good deal of benefit to our people. Everybody will be able to understand it thoroughly.

So far as the Provincial languages are concerned, I feel there is some necessity of co-relation and for that purpose also Radio is the foremost organ. I know of my own Province. I daresay that in our Province different languages are spoken in different places separated by short distances. The language spoken at certain places are not sometimes easily understood by people living in other parts of the Province. I feel that the Radio is the best means for promoting this union.

The village dialects spoken in our Province are spoken in different ways and the Radio programme should be arranged in a suitable order so as to develop mutual contact and create interest in the minds of people. I realize that the existing conditions in the country will thus be improved and very soon we will be able to accomplish our desire to evolve a national language. It has become all the more necessary to-day to encourage the language spoken in villages and Radio is the first-rate medium to achieve this. We should utilize this opportunity by using a simple language for propaganda purposes instead of a literary language which is the media for broadcast. Our common languages spoken in villages should be used for broadcasting purposes. These two languages should be brought together by means of this propaganda and I think we can do a good deal for the betterment of our country.

Just as every one knows, the wave of communalism is at present rampant in our country and has produced baneful effect on the minds of people and has hit us like a bolt from the blue. We have lost our revered Mahatma Gandhi—the most precious wealth of our country. I feel that Radio is the best method for ending this state of mind and we can also make drastic changes in the society and, in the minds of illiterate people and develop our culture and civilization.

With due respects, I would like to draw the attention of the Honourable the Prime Minister to the fact that the speed at which the Radio Department is moving is likely to bring harm. Its scope should be widened instead of being narrowed down. I would like to invite his attention to this.

Mr. Waziruddin Ahmad (West Bengal: Muslim): Sir, I wish to draw the attention of the Honourable the Prime Minister and of the House to certain aspects of Information and Broadcasting. There is under the Government of India a Press Information Bureau and there are nine officers in various languages. There are about 15 officers to deal with news in the English language, one in Hindi and one in Urdu. But with regard to the other languages in India there are only Assistant Information Officers. With regard to these, one characteristic is very much visible, that most of them are either retired professors or lecturers. I do not desire to say anything in disparagement of their qualifications, but they were only accustomed to teaching our boys and young men. So far as Information of the present day is concerned, it is an expert job which is the business more or less of journalists. I understand there are only a few journalists who are capable of dealing with the Information service of the Government in an expert manner. I wish to draw the attention of the Prime Minister to this aspect of the matter. So far as professors and lecturers are concerned, there is ample scope for their work in various other departments, but this is a kind of work in which they are not specialists and they cannot generally equal others who have made it their job to deal with news and information for the consumption of the public.

Then there are various provincial branch offices. I understand officers are sent there who are not particularly suited to local conditions and men are sent to particular provinces who do not know the provincial languages. In view of the language difficulty in the provinces an Information Officer must know the local languages. We have got newspapers in the vernacular languages and persons who do not know the provincial languages are misfits. The language diffi-

[Mr. Naziruddin Ahmad]

culty cannot be got over by mere theories from here. In Eastern Bengal there has been a tremendous protest against the imposition of Urdu as the official language. I believe the trouble has not ended; it has only begun. I think the time is fast approaching when the people of Eastern Bengal will enforce the use of Bengali as one of the official languages. I submit that it would not do to ignore the existence of the different languages. We are certainly expecting the time when there will be an official language in India, but till that goal is reached, it is better to realise and recognise existing facts and suit our Information Officers from that point of view.

Then with regard to Broadcasting. There are some news editors in the All-India Radio. There are Hindustani supervisors. It is also noticeable here that men who had devoted their life to the educational service are mostly requisitioned for this purpose. Here again I repeat that broadcasting, which is akin to journalism, is an expert business and it is particularly the business of journalists to run this business with real effect. Then as a result we find that matters not of a very high order are dished out for the public. These seem like mere translations of dry official reports and statements and they jar on the ears of many people and the All India Radio service, though not of a very mean order, does not compare well with the British Broadcasting Corporation news and reports which we hear everyday. I submit that in this business also, more newspaper men, who are trained journalists, should be taken to give it a fillip and give it some kind of life. In this connection I submit one other matter that what is given out as the Hindustani news is really Hindi news. There is nothing Hindustani about it. It is pure Sanskritised Hindi. There are other languages in which the news service is given excepting Urdu. I submit when Hindi in the purest type is given out for a certain class of public, Urdu may be introduced also along with the other languages. Besides, Urdu is still the mother tongue of a large number of people, Hindus and Muslims.

Then with regard to the foreign news service, I have something to say. So far as the foreign news is concerned, *Reuters* were being paid Rs. 50,000 per annum for a long time. I understand that has been discontinued. The reports from the United Nations Organisation, especially with regard to Kashmir, have been of a very unsatisfactory character. I have it from very high authority—some men connected with the Delegation—that the various news items which were sent out from the United Nations headquarters to India were mostly of a perfunctory and misleading character. The reason is that though there may not be any intention to distort or manipulate the news, and however sympathetic foreign news agencies may be towards India, they will still have their own viewpoint and it is inevitable that in sending out news which affect India vitally, they do introduce their own viewpoint. Again, they cannot give the same amount of attention which they give to the news from their own national point of view. In these circumstances, I should submit that the Government should encourage Indian agents to start branches in the different countries. As has been suggested, newspaper men should have information officers attached to the various Embassies which go out to different countries. That would at once improve the tone of our news service.

In these matters, it should be noted that the U.K. has its own news service. The U.S.A. also has its own news service. France and Russia have their own national news service. I think it is a natural corollary from the fact that we have attained independence from the 15th August that we should have our own national news agencies in the different parts of the country. Since many independent countries have their own national organisations in different countries, it is meet and proper that we should now have news agencies of our own in foreign countries.

As I submitted, and I repeat that the need of associating really first-class front-rank newspaper men—journalists—in this business is extremely important. The materials which are supplied by Government to newspapers are not of a very high order. They are dull and disconnected. There is no co-ordination. There are various departments which have their publicity officers. They often go against each other and even contradict one another. This should be co-ordinated and I submit that journalists should be specially associated with this aspect of the activities of the Government. It is very desirable that the activities of the Government should receive the fullest publicity not only in India but in foreign countries also. For want of the right outlook, for want of sufficient experience, they are handled in an unskilled manner and Government actions do not receive the desired publicity. I submit that the Honourable the Prime Minister will look into this and do the needful.

Shrimati G. Durgabai: (Madras : General): Mr. Chairman, though I am not moving the cut motions standing in my name, I intend to discuss the general policy of broadcasting in India with particular reference to rural broadcasting.

Sir, in the limited time that is at my disposal, I would like to offer some suggestions for the consideration of the Ministry concerned and also for the consideration of the House. In view of the great importance of broadcasting and also its utility and service to the nation, it is high time that we should have a clear-cut, definite policy and also a plan, a method and a system in our broadcasting. But it is really regrettable that we do not have any policy, or if there is one, not a definite policy, at any rate till now, in some of the aspects of our broadcasting.

Sir, With regard some of the aspects of broadcasting I would like to mention some here: with regard to news service and also news bulletins, and in regard to the selection of news commentators or artists or some such personnel we do not seem to have a clear-cut policy till now.

Now, Sir, it is really a pity that we still retain and carry the old legacy. With regard to language neither the national language nor the provincial language has been given any precedence over the foreign language. We have far too many news bulletins in English, I suggest that two news bulletins one in the morning and the other at night will suffice and the other two bulletins, one at 1.30 P.M. and the other at 6 P.M. may be replaced by the provincial languages. People coming from the South do not mind if there is a Hindustani news bulletin in the morning. I should like to say that there is no use of insisting on Hindi in the Parliament when we hear more of English, less of vernacular and nothing of Hindustani. Therefore this consideration may be borne in mind with regard to our news bulletins.

With regard to the other point, that is the present system of news service, I agree that the centre should give out the news and the provincial stations should relay, because that is not only economical but will also help in uniting the nation.

There is one point which I really regret to mention and that is the way in which local news is treated. The time allotted for local news is only five minutes. In these five minutes we hear more of the interviews the Governors are pleased to grant or the understandable Government communiques or advertisements for federal and provincial services than any real local news. Considering the importance of our provinces, some of which are twice as big as some of the European nations, I feel that the system which we are now following is not satisfactory. Therefore I suggest that the Broadcasting Department should organise an independent provincial news service system. Really many important things happen either in the districts or taluk centres. Riots may break out or strikes take place engineered by Communists, or nation-building activities may be undertaken by charitable or social service organisations but

[Shrimati G. Durgabai]

these will not appear in the local news. Therefore I suggest that the central news broadcasting department should organise an independent provincial news service organisation operating under their control.

There is another point and that is with regard to rural broadcasting. I would say that giving out news is the best form of propaganda. We cannot really claim that we are doing much for rural welfare if we do not organise a rural broadcasting service. There is no good of giving a talk on cattle-breeding or the prevention and cure of a particular disease to the villagers but if you give out the news that a certain village or a panchayat has organised a fair, a cattle show or a village dispensary, that is the best way to give out news and it will also get the rural people news-minded. It is only then that they will take interest in this matter. Invariably I have seen in our rural programmes that the villager is represented as an ignorant mass of flesh and he requires constantly to be educated. But this is really overdoing the thing. I do not have any knowledge of village men but I do have some knowledge of village women. They are never idle. It is really the middle class and the rich class people living in towns, particularly the women, who require to be taught something more. Therefore I request the broadcasting department to pay special attention with regard to the Mahila Mandal programmes which they are organising.

There is another point which I would like to mention with regard to the present morale of the broadcasting department. The conditions are not very satisfactory. Reports regarding how the girls working in the broadcasting department are treated or the artists who are called there to take part in programmes are treated, are very unsatisfactory. I have reports with me giving dates and some very authentic data that in some of the stations, things are not very satisfactory. I have an example of Calcutta to give. A girl working there was insulted by a commentator who came there fully drunk. She has given some written complaints but no steps have been taken to remedy her grievance. Therefore, the standard of broadcasting is to be kept at a high or respectable level and we have to take every step to see that respectable men, women and children are attracted to take part in these programmes. Therefore something should be done in this regard.

Then there is also a lot of corruption going on. Every one of us have some knowledge with regard to this matter. I mean corruption with regard to the selection of artists, and people who are asked to give talks, etc., where favouritism is shown. This must be checked. The non-official advisory bodies merely exist for names sake. They should be given a fair hand and asked to deal with these matters severely. At present we have some non-official bodies to advise the radio authorities on several matters regarding policy and programme which they are at present adopting. I have my own experience of the Madras station to which I have the honour to belong and I am a member of the non-official advisory body for Madras station. These bodies rarely meet. I have also information regarding Calcutta. Since 1946 this Committee has never met till today. Therefore I would suggest to the department that they should make these non-official bodies really powerful and active in the matter of advice to the broadcasting department.

I have not got much time to dwell upon other matters which require consideration but I hope these few points which I have made will receive the consideration of the department and they will do the needful in the matter.

✓ **The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** (Prime Minister and Leader of the House). Sir, with your permission before I deal with the subject matter of the debate, I should like to make a reference to the tragedy that occurred in Europe a few days ago. I refer to the death of Mdn. Jan Masaryk, the Foreign Minister of the Czechoslovakian Republic. Not only is this in itself

a very tragic event, (so far as I am personally concerned I was acquainted with him and it was a personal loss to me also) but in the circumstances in which it has occurred it may have grievous consequences. I took the liberty to send to the Ambassador of the Republic of Czechoslovakia here the sympathy and condolence of the Government and the people of this country and I am sure the members of this House will also like to add their own sympathy to that message.

Now, Sir, on the occasion of a cut motion in regard to the policy of the External Affairs Ministry, rather incidentally and casually, I made a reference to the British Information Services in America—In fact my colleague Mr. Shiva Rao had mentioned it and I also referred to the fact that he had mentioned it—and I stated that they had been asked and they had been carrying on publicity at the request of the Pakistan Government. Further I mentioned that they had employed some Indians. Now the British Information Services in America have contradicted that statement and have clearly stated that they are not carrying on any propaganda, or rather publicity, on behalf of the Pakistan Government and that they have not employed any Indian on their staff. I must accept that now and I express my regret for having made a statement which was not factually true. I do not wish to enter into this argument. But apart from being factually true or not, it is possible to point out many things which occur, and which occur simply because they have been occurring for a long time past and it is difficult to get out of the old rut. A little while ago an article by an eminent British journalist dealing with Kashmir was circulated by the British Information Services not only in America but in various foreign countries. Now this article contained certain statements which were completely untrue. For instance, to mention one, it stated that it was after the accession of Kashmir to the Indian Union that the Tribal people, irritated by that accession, invaded Kashmir, which was just a reversal of what took place. This is a minor matter. I merely mention this because people who have been connected in the past with a certain type of work naturally tend to look at a problem from that point of view; it is difficult to get out of that rut. However, I am sorry I made a statement on the last occasion which was not correct. I regret it.

Now, in regard to external publicity I have very little to say except to welcome many of the suggestions that Mr. Shiva Rao made. External Publicity it is called, and perhaps Honourable Members may think that we should try to flood foreign countries with facts and figures in the nature of propaganda. I do not think that it is desirable for us to do that or that we can in fact do it. I do not think our approach should be the pure publicity or the advertisement approach. We cannot do it because the way to do it would be to spend far vaster sums than we can ever afford, to engage far bigger personnel and so on and so forth. But my main reason for not desiring to do so is that I do not like that approach at all. That approach tends inevitably to become a tendentious approach, and while it may perhaps create an impression now and then the value of it progressively lessens when people realize that it is too much propaganda of a particular type. I would much rather place the facts before the public here in India or outside. Naturally I shall place them inevitably from our point of view, try to give the background of the facts—but facts and nothing more than facts as far as possible—and allow other people to judge. Of course it makes all the difference in the world how facts are placed before the public. Statistics may be made to tell almost any tale. That is so. Anyhow, this business of publicity, whether factual publicity or any other kind of publicity, is an extraordinarily tricky business anywhere, and more especially in foreign countries. It is easy to criticize it, and I think many of the criticisms advanced are justified. It is also easy perhaps to draw up schemes which appear good on paper but which may not succeed so well in practice.

[Pundit Jawaharlal Nehru]

As I told the House on the last occasion we have been discussing this problem, the problem of this external publicity, because external publicity is so intimately allied to external policy that normally every country has its external publicity organised by its Foreign Office and not by its internal publicity machine. Here, owing to various developments, war-time developments—because this was only thought of in war-time—external publicity became a part of our Information Department here. The more I have given thought to it the more I have realized that this is not a very satisfactory arrangement. Obviously there must be the closest co-operation between the internal publicity machine and external publicity. But it is far better, I think, that the External Affairs Ministry should have a greater part in the organization of external publicity than it has had thus far.

I agree with Mr. Shiva Rao when he refers to Public Relations Officers rather than publicity agents abroad. That conveys far more the idea of the work they ought to do. At the present moment the various hand-outs, etc. that are issued no doubt do some useful purpose, but I do not think they are worth the money we spend upon them. My own impression, not now I mean but previously, and my own, because I have myself tried to do—not as a Member of the Government but as a private individual or as a member of the Congress organization—some kind of external publicity, is that all these hand-outs and pamphlets and leaflets find their way to the waste paper basket. They influence very few persons—except a few persons who have been previously converted and who use them and keep them for their own benefit. The whole thing has to be looked upon entirely from a different point of view, from a psychological point of view from the point of view of the requirements of each country concerned. For instance the approach in the United States of America is likely to be different—I think completely different—from the approach in France and even more different from the approach in the Soviet Republic. The kind of paper that one may produce in America ought to have some bearing on the kind of information that America requires. In France it will not be the same. I can say that with assurance. They have a different outlook and attach different values. The kind of information that we send to the Soviet Republic will be entirely different or almost entirely different. The kind of information that the Soviet Republic asks us, our Ambassador tells us, is almost entirely economic information like what is being done in our various projects, various schemes, dams, reservoirs, river valley schemes and the rest, irrigation, education. They ask us for these; they are interested in them. No particular enquiry about politics as such has come from them. Now, it may be that they deliberately put forward those kinds of enquiries because they are mostly put forward by governmental agencies there. But my point is that the approach has to be different in every country that we tackle. It can only be fully appreciated by competent Public Relations Officers as well as our Embassies and Legations there as to what is required and how it can be done properly. And then it has to be co-ordinated with our publicity arrangements here. So I do think that all this matter has to be considered fully, and in fact the External Affairs Ministry and the Home Ministry are considering this matter. We hope to evolve some more feasible and better method. Inevitably we shall have to approach this question by the method of trial and error. There is no way to find the perfect method of doing things except by experience. Then again the other countries that indulge in this kind of publicity have done so for many years and have got a great deal of experience. They spend vast sums of money, employ very large numbers of persons, and have already developed very intimate contacts with the publicity organisations in the countries they function in. It is easy for them. We may send the brightest of our young men from here. It takes time for him to deve-

top those contacts, and not only physical contacts, but psychological and other contacts, so that if results are not brilliant, the House should realise that it is not a mechanical matter, of sending shouters or pamphlets, leaflets or lecturers and others, but developing something which is much more intricate and difficult. Undoubtedly the present arrangements are not very happy and they have to be changed, I think, more or less on the lines of some of the suggestions made in this House.

Now coming to Information and Broadcasting, may I say that both in regard to information and broadcasting, and publicity, etc., the Ministry has very kindly given me full notes containing a large number of particulars. I do not propose to read them to the House because that will take too long a time and the House might get lost in a large number of figures: but the House should know those particulars of course and I shall suggest to the Ministry to place them before the House or before the public in the proper form so that they may know exactly what is being done. Now my own view of the set-up for broadcasting is that we should approximate as far as possible to the British method, the BBC. that is to say, it would be better if we had a semi-autonomous corporation under of course Government, with the policy controlled by Government but otherwise being not conducted as a government department but as a semi-autonomous corporation. Now I do not think that is immediately feasible. I have merely mentioned this to the House. I think we should aim at that even though we may have many difficulties. In fact in most matters we should aim at these semi-autonomous corporations, the policy and otherwise being distantly controlled by government, but government or government departments not interfering in their day-to-day activities. But that is not an immediate issue. Obviously these debates about the policy to be pursued, about our various services—news services, the language question and the rest—have given an indication of the mind of the House. That helps. But if they are to bear real fruit, there should be far more discussions more or less on the—shall I say—not academic level but certainly on the scholarly level carefully by committees, etc. It is impossible really to consider these matters in vague speeches connected with cut motions. I am sorry to learn from an Honourable Member that these Advisory Committees have not been functioning in some of the provinces. I should have thought that in regard to broadcasting etc., it was necessary for such committees to function very frequently, for advice to be taken, for them to be told what was happening, and generally for there to be co-ordination between the non-official element and the official element. I should have liked the Standing Committee attached to this Department also to consider all the matters that are raised in this House and discuss them with the officials in the department. That is the proper way of dealing with them. It is not very satisfactory for Honourable Members to make speeches here and for me or someone else to make a reply, and there the matter ends for the year. I hope therefore that this kind of intimate contact and intimate discussions over these matters will take place much more so in future than in the past. Now take any question, like the language question. It is obviously a matter for high scholastic consideration, not a matter which can be disposed of properly in the heat of a political debate. More especially a broadcasting organization should consider it from that point of view, should have indeed high class advisers who know something about languages and the rest and who can advise them. In England there is no such language issue of course, as to what language should be employed, but the best literary figures in England are employed to advise the BBC—men like Bernard Shaw and others. They have them on the permanent Advisory Committee as to the use of language. I am not quite sure if the biggest literary figures were asked to advise us, if the results would be very happy because their advice would probably apply to other literary figures and persons like me

(~~Shri~~ Jawaharlal Nehru)

will not understand at all what has happened. That is a conceivable possibility. Nevertheless, my point is that persons capable of understanding this problem, in its educational as well as public aspect, should dispassionately consider this, should be attached to these Broadcasting Ministries, and should advise them, and should make use of words, vocabularies, etc. to be used. That is done in every country even though there is no such type of controversy that exists here. That applies to the kind of news that is to be given also.

Now there can be no two opinions in this House as to the importance of the development of broadcasting in the rural areas. I did not quite understand what I think Shrimati Kamala Chaudhri said, something about much more time being given to the rural areas. It is not a question of time at all, I think. Suppose you give instead of an hour a day, five hours a day. They can only listen at certain times and there is such a thing as overdoing it. Nor do I think it would be at all right for us to proceed in our broadcasting programmes with the fixed desire to benefit the other person concerned. I do not know how Honourable Members react to attempts being made to improve them, but I react strongly against it. If anybody is going to sermonize me, well I am not going to listen to that sermon. I think that is the general public psychological reaction: too much sermonizing, too much attempt to benefit, too much being told to be good, does not result in good results. One must approach differently. If you want to educate, you must do it in an amusing way, entertaining way, in a light way, sometimes in a heavy way too if you like, just as you cannot train a child by simply dozing him with heavy stuff all the time.

You just ruin his life if you do that. So you must treat him better. I suggest these are matters for experts to consider. So I think it would be desirable for members of separate committees to consider them and co-ordinate their activities and advise the Ministry, and thus gradually we might improve.

I am sorry I have not dealt with many of the matters raised, but I have suggested the way that should be followed in order to deal with them.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,00,00,000 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, 1948, in respect of 'Ministry of Information and Broadcasting'."

The motion was adopted.

The Assembly then adjourned till a Quarter to Eleven of the Clock on Tuesday the 16th March, 1948.